FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq achieved a "strategic victory" in the East Tigris operational sector that "decisively settled" the war in favor of Iraq, according to an 18 March Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Nevertheless, reports from the Iranian Badr operations area cited by Tehran radio maintained that Iranian forces established positions over a 500 square km area of the Hawr al-Hawizah region. Meanwhile, Iran hit Baghdad with surface-to-surface missiles on 18 and 19 March, IRNA reported. The 18 March attack hit the new Iraqi Foreign Ministry building, and the 19 March attack hit the Dora industrial district, the agency noted. While Iraqi media have not reported either attack on Baghdad, Tehran and Baghdad radios acknowledged the continued bombings of Iranian and Iraqi towns on 18 March. However, INA denied IRNA reports that five Iraqi planes were shot down over Iran on 18 March.

Responding to Iraq's announcement of an "exclusion zone" for civilian airlines over Iran, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman stated that Iraq's threats will spread the war and increase tension, Tehran radio announced. The spokesman called on international organizations to take the necessary steps to stop Iraq's "illegal acts."

Egypt-Jordan Diplomacy

Jordan's King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak expressed solidarity with and their complete support for Iraq in its "just battle" during an unexpected 18 March working visit to Baghdad, according to Baghdad radio. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn briefed King Husayn and Mubarak on developments in the Iran-Iraq war and the three discussed "strong fraternal ties" during 4 hours of talks, the radio reported. Reporting Mubarak and King Husayn's departure for Baghdad, IRNA stated that Baghdad is "completely unsafe" and could be attacked at any time.

President Mubarak and King Husayn's Baghdad visit followed their 18 March talks in Amman during which Mubarak informed King Husayn about his recent talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and West European leaders, Amman radio stated. During his talks with King Husayn, Mubarak gave "a more positive image" of the U.S. position on his proposals and said the U.S. administration "has shown more flexibility" concerning the Arab viewpoint, a *JORDAN TIMES* report on the talks asserted.

Lebanon

Phalangist Internal Crisis — Citing informed sources, AFP maintained that opposing Phalangist groups agreed to a compromise plan to heal their split. The agency contended that a "news blackout" on the plan is in effect but that details would be revealed soon. In a phone call to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, President Amin al-Jumayyil asserted that the situation is "improving," Damascus radio related.

IDF Operation — Two "terrorists" were killed when IDF forces searched the village of Ma'rub on 18 March, Jerusalem radio announced.

Sudan

President Ja'far Numaryi issued a decree relieving 'Umar al-'Ubayd Bilal as economic adviser, SUNA reported.

Pakistan-DRA

Four Afghan planes violated Pakistan's airspace on 18 March and dropped nine bombs near Arandu, according to Karachi radio. Pakistan's Foreign Ministry lodged a "strong protest" over this "unprovoked attack," the radio reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Rebels Reported 'Crushed' in Various Provinces
LD181831 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] A responsible security source reported to the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that as a result of a successful operation in Qal-e Ahmad Kahn village, Kabul Province, four armed rebels were crushed and their weapons were seized by the country's security forces.

Also, during another operation in the Balkh District, Balkh Province, 13 armed rebels belonging to the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami band were captured together with their light weapons.

As a result of another operation which took place in Konduz Province, Mawalawi Badol Hadi and 18 other counterrevolutionaries were punished for their actions.

Another report says that during a successful operation in Badghis Province, two sold out elements were eliminated. And in the course of another operation in Urgun, Paktika Province, a clothing storeroom, 16 mines, 16,000 rounds of ammunition for light weapons, and 15 mortar mines were seized by the security forces.

Rebels Crushed in Shakar Dara
LD181833 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Our security forces continue to deal shattering blows at the cultureless rebels wherever they form groups. As a result of a successful operation in the Qarya-e Ahmad Khan, Shakar Dara district, against a group of the Jami'at band, the ringleader of the group, Bahram, and six of his men were crushed and 4 assorted weapons including 2 Chinese Kalashnikov's, an 11-bullet-magazined rifle, about 4,000 rounds of ammunition, and a number of counterrevolutionary documents proving their links with reactionary countries of the region, were seized by the security forces.

Captured Guerrilla Details Iranian Military Aid
LD180105 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Excerpts] There is no way for criminals to escape. Our compatriots have often heard the statements of captured rebels. When rebels are caught by the hands of the law and revolutionary justice, they appeal to the revolutionary state to be forgiven. Under the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium's amnesty decree, those deceived persons who voluntarily put down their arms and surrender to the state are pardoned. However, those who are confronted and captured by the courageous troops of the country must be brought before the judgment of the people and revolutionary justice. We draw your attention to the words of one of these captured persons:

[Begin Ebrahim recording] My name is Sayed Ebrahim, son of Sayed Abolhasan, inhabitant of Mazar-e Sharif city, Yakhan Kanda District. I am in charge of the financial affairs of the Sazaman-e Fedayan-e Eslam [Islamic Sacrificers Organization]. In 1358 [1978] we escaped from here and went to Char Kent to join the Harakat-e Eslami [Islamic movement]. I was there for 1 year; my job was night patrol on the Yarghayli mountain. I had one 11-round rifle.

In Qaws of 1959 [November-December 1979] I joined Mesbah, who is the leader of the Fedayan-e Eslam; he had brought 67 weapons from Iran. When I joined him, he put me in charge of financial affairs. We were in the Char Kent area for 4 months, and from there were sent to Alborz mountain. We went there for the first time as a group of 16 people; our commander was called Hadi, and I was in charge of the financial affairs. When we went there we began collecting money and goods from the people. We collected 160 sheep and goats, and 290,000 afghanis in cash; and at harvest time we collected wheat, which we took to Sar-e Asia, Emam Saheb, and Arabha, Albors mountain.

In the summer Mesbah sent us weapons and a letter asking us to send some people for military and guerrilla training. Forty people, including myself, were sent to Iran.

We found the committee [as heard] which was in a building, the rent of which was 4,000 tumans and which was paid by the Sepah [Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps]. The guards are Khomeyni's own men. They have great influence in Afghanistan; they provide money, weapons, and training to Afghans. One of the leaders was called Akbar (?Falezi), an Iranian; another one is (Naseri). They do not trust anyone else, but their expenses and other things are paid by the Sepah-e Iran.

We went to Qom city, where we remained for 3 months. People were invited there and told to send their children for military and guerrilla training by the Sepah. They are trained by the Sepah and then sent to Afghanistan to fight against the Government of Afghanistan. Some 23,000 tumans were collected for us; then we returned to Mashhad.

There was a 6-man committee in Mashhad: Mesbah was its leader; Alemi his assistant; Shaykh Asad, the head of the Mashhad Committee; 'Ali Mohammad was their doctor; Hassan Hosayn was in charge of the cultural committee; and I was in charge of the financial affairs. After a while Mesbah went to see Montazeri, who promised to help him. I was with Mesbah at the time. Montazeri told Mesbah to introduce himself during unity week, in which the representatives of 43 countries would take part. They would provide assistance.

After a while unity week was organized. We went to Tehran and through Montazeri we approached foreign representatives. They had come from Pakistan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, West Germany, and other places. About 13 of them solemnly promised to provide Mesbah with weapons and money. They said that they could not help directly, but that aid could be introduced through the Sepah. When unity week ended, I was told to bring 40 people to Tehran to be sent to Sepah in Tehran for training in military and guerrilla warfare. I brought 60 people to Tehran. The Sepah gave them 2 months of military and guerrilla training in the mountains.

They stressed that we had to work hard; they were ready to supply all sorts of weapons and money. The first instructors they introduced were Germans. I also took part in this training; my instructors were some Iranians named Akbar, 'Abbas; and Mohammad.

Efforts were focussed on explosion of mines, such as cabled mines [as heard], which are exploded using power from batteries; pressure mines, and [word indistinct] mines. They stressed that we should blow up gas pipelines, because the damage done to the state budget is great. A group of six of us was taught how to set off explosions on gas pipelines, bridges, schools, state buildings, and so forth. I once took part in such an explosion.

The Fedayan-e Eslam set off explosions near gas pipelines more than 20 times. Harakat-e Eslami also carried out 2 such explosions; Nasr organization did so 5 times; even the Jami'at has carried out such explosions 5 or 6 times. I heard them say that they inflicted $60 million worth of damage by blowing up a gas pipeline.

Once I was given a letter in Tehran to be taken to Dar-e Soop, where there is a shaykh called Rashedi who was appointed a judge by Montazeri. In 1362 [1983-4] I went to Tehran, where Montazeri gave Mesbah 80 weapons to be sent to Afghanistan. [end recording]

Politburo Member Ratebzad Goes to Moscow

LD190723 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul, March 18, BAKHTAR: Anahita Ratebzad, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDPA and president of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organisation of the DRA left for Moscow today.

Ratebzad will participate in the meeting of the Presidium of the World Peace Council.

Delegation to Hungary To Attend Party Congress

LD190753 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul, March 18, BAKHTAR: A delegation headed by Niaz Mohammad Mohmand, the secretary of the PDPA CC, left for Budapest at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Socialist Workers Party of Hungary.

The delegation will participate in the 13th congress of that party.

Hasan to Libya to Attend AAPSO Presidium Session

LD190757 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul, March 18, BAKHTAR: Emtiaz Hasan, the deputy head of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of the DRA, left for Libya. He will participate in the meeting of the Presidium of Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO).

BAKHTAR Hits Human Rights 'Propaganda' Campaign

LD182114 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Announcement by the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY:

The eye-catching victories of the DRA in consolidating the gains of the revolution and popular rule in the economic, social and cultural areas, and also the defeats which the counterrevolution, reaction and international imperialism have sustained as a result of the crushing blows of the heroic army and people of Afghanistan, have provoked the savage wrath of the enemies of the April Revolution. The agents and executioners of the undeclared war against the DRA, who have not succeeded in achieving their sinister aims in Afghanistan despite various forms of interference, including armed interference, and have become disappointed with the policy of their state terrorism against the DRA, recently resorted to a broad propaganda war regarding the so-called negation of human rights in Afghanistan.

The runners of this major propaganda campaign, which is headed by the world-devouring imperialism of the United States, in this way try to present a completely distorted image of events concerning Afghanistan.

The enemies of our popular revolution, who have hypocritically posed themselves in the clothes of so-called defenders of the people of Afghanistan, have this time chosen the human rights commission as a tool for allegation and fabrication against the DRA. With regret it must be said that the United States and regimes subservient to it, utilizing threat and blackmail, have succeeded in abusing this credible UN organization to approve a so-called resolution concerning the situation of human rights in Afghanistan which is full of fabrications, lies and hostile attacks against the DRA and the Soviet Union, the sincere friend of the people of Afghanistan.

A completely false report by a certain Felix Ermacora, who plays the role of special spokesman for the Human Rights Commission in Afghanistan in this scenario, has been used as reference for the contents of the aforementioned resolution. The decision regarding the appointment of such a spokesman by the United States and its allies, was imposed on the last meeting of the UN Socioeconomic Council in mid-1984. It is not necessary to speak about the contents of this so-called report, which is no more than a distortion of facts and groundless and hostile claims. It is sufficient to refer to the sources through which the stated report has been prepared in order to find its true value.

It is clear to all that the provider of the report simply contacted a handful of thieves, murderers and highwaymen belonging to the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands located in Pakistan and obtained from them the so-called truth concerning the human rights situation in Afghanistan.

Also, the hostile and groundless claims of the Pakistani authorities, who have put their country at the disposal of international imperialism and reaction as a major base of aggression against the DRA, and the imperialistic aims and opinions of Washington and its collaborators and their anti-Afghan, anti-Soviet position,

are clearly reflected in the aforementioned report. In this could be seen the source of the so-called report by Ermacora and on what foundation the resolution of the Human Rights Commission is based.

Meanwhile, by extending the duty of the so-called special spokesman of the commission for Afghanistan for another year, and the presentation of his report to the 40th meeting of the UN General Assembly and the 42d session of the UN Human Rights Commission, the aforementioned resolution exposes the true aims of the enemies of Afghanistan. Imperialists want to accept an international standard for the so-called violation of human rights in Afghanistan and in this way try to conceal its criminal and aggressive actions in Lebanon, Grenada, El Salvador, Angola, South Africa and other parts of the world, which are counted as the most savage form of the violation of human rights and have been resolutely condemned by all progressive humanity and also by the UN itself and its organizations.

Also, the aim of all these so-called reports and resolutions is to cover up of the true faces of those who have unleashed an undeclared war against the people of Afghanistan and the gains of the April Revolution, and those who carry out the most tragic crimes, murders, plunder and subversion through their agents and counterrevolutionary bands in the territory of Afghanistan.

One could ask, when the matter of the unprecedented crimes of the bands, armed with American and Chinese weapons, comes up, why these so-called defenders of the rights and basic freedoms of mankind keep silent? Why do they close their eyes to the truth of destruction and burning of schools, hospitals, mosques and other private and public property and the savage killing and murder of children, women, teachers and other innocent people of Afghanistan by the bands and infiltrated servants from abroad? Is not all this loss of life and material damage, which the people of Afghanistan have suffered during more than 6 years of undeclared war of reaction and imperialism, sufficient to be resolutely condemned as the true violation of human rights and for effective measures to be taken to end them? In this case why is it allowed to speak about the so-called problems and difficulties of the bandits and at the same time overlook the anti-human actions of the bandits, which result in death, suffering and annihilation in Afghanistan.

It is obvious that the proposals of Washington for increasing so-called humanitarian assistance to the counterrevolutionary bandits and equipping them with modern weapons, is the aim which rests at the back of this hullaballoo. Also, it transpires that apparently the violation of human rights in Afghanistan emenates from the presence of the Soviet limited military contingents in the DRA. Thus the enemies of the April Revolution try to attribute to others the guilt of their illegitimate actions. The Anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet propaganda war, which began in the United States parallel to the 41st human rights session in Geneva, and also reports about the so-called Soviet strategy in Afghanistan, which also began during that time in the U.S.Congress, confirm this fact. However, in the manner which foreign interference against the DRA is faced with disgraceful defeat, so the propaganda attacks of reaction and imperialism against the people of Afghanistan and their reliable friend, the Soviet Union, are also doomed to defeat. Revolutionary Afghanistan enjoys the support of all progressive and peace-loving forces of the world, the powerful society of the socialist countries, and all those people who are fighting for freedom, progress and democracy. Our people have the strength, with the help of their friends, to deal a shattering blow to those who undermine the rights of the Afghanistan leadership and its courageous people.

Successes in Agricultural Sphere Reported

LD190743 Kabul BAKHTAR In English 0451 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul, March 18, BAKHTAR: Notwithstanding the frantic endeavours of the counter-revolution and the continuation of the undeclared war against Afghanistan, the people of the country have achieved significant successes in various spheres of the national economy.

In comparison with the last year, more than two thousand hectares of land have been cultivated in the current Afghan year (ends March 20, 1985). The total area under cultivation reaches to 4 million hectares. The total production of grains has been assessed at 4.5 million tons and of the raw cotton at more than 76,000 tons. A total quantity of one million tons of vegetables and 900,000 tons of fruits have been produced in the current year.

The volume purchase of the surplus wheat of the peasants and raw cotton, aimed at the stabilization of prices increased two fold in comparison with the last year. The price of wheat fell down in most provinces of the country and the production of this staple crop is enough to meet the requirements of the population.

One hundred thousand tons of chemical fertilizer, insecticides and pesticides, 14,000 tons of improved wheat [word indistinct] and over [figure indistinct] to [figure indistinct] cotton, [word indistinct] have been contributed to the peasants in the current year. Likewise 355 million afs (50 afghani equal one dollar) have been put at the disposal of the peasants as agricultural loans and credits, which show a considerable increase in comparison with the last year.

The increase in the production of major agricultural crops in the country in comparison with previous years is indicative of ever increasing consolidation of revolutionary sovereignty in the country, creation of secure work atmosphere for the peasants and the all-sides attention and assistance to the peasants given by the state of the DRA.

Sultan Ahmad Returns From Chernenko Funeral 18 Mar
BK181348 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1230 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The Soviet Union has expressed its desire to expand economic cooperation and trade relations with Bangladesh. This was stated by Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmad, deputy chief martial law administrator and the minister of communications and irrigation, while talking to newsmen on his return to Dhaka today after taking part at the funeral of Soviet President Chernenko in Moscow. He said that the Soviet leaders have expressed hopes that the friendly relations with Bangladesh will be strengthened. He said that President Ershad's message of condolence has deeply touched the people and Government of the Soviet Union. He added that special arrangement was made for the Bangladesh delegation at the cemetary of Chernenko in Red Square.

During his stay in Moscow, Adm Ahmad had separate meetings with Pakistan President General Ziaul Haq, PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, and the foreign minister of Sri Lanka. They discussed on matters of mutual interest.

At his talks with the PLO leader, Adm Ahmad reiterated Bangladesh's support for the setting up of a separate homeland for the Palestinian people and the end of Gulf war.

The vice chairman of the Soviet Union and the chairman of the Supreme Soviet bade a hearty farewell to Adm Ahmad in Moscow.

Delhi: Opposition Calls To Boycott Referendum
BK190944 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] In Bangladesh, the 15-party opposition alliance has called on the people to boycott Thursday's referendum. A statement issed in Dhaka by a spokesman of the alliance also called for a general strike on Thursday defying martial law regulations. The 7-party alliance has also urged the people not to participate in the referendum.

Briefs

Envoy to PRC Dies — The Bangladesh ambassador to China, Mr K.M. Kaiser, is dead. A Foreign Office spokesman in Dhaka said at mid-day today that the ambassador died of heart attack in Beijing this morning. Mr Kaiser, till before his death, was also Bangladesh ambassador accredited to Kampuchea. [Excerpt] [*Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 13 Mar 85 BK*]

Exchange Program With PRC — Bangladesh and China have signed a program of exchanges in the fields of culture, arts, sports, education, radio, television documentary, and publication for the current financial year. Under the program, the two governments agreed to promote the relations in these fields and exchange visits of cultural troupes and artists. They also agreed to exchange broadcasting, documentary film, and tv delegations, including exchange of sports teams and coaches. [Excerpt] [*Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 11 Mar 85 BK*]

'Massive Hunt' Launched for Soviet Official

BK181553 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1542 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The Delhi police have launched a massive hunt to trace a third secretary of the Soviet Embassy who is reported missing since yesterday morning. He had gone for his usual morning walk but did not return.

Indian Press Reports

HK190652 Hong Kong AFP in English 0640 GMT 19 Mar 85

[By P.P. Ramachandran]

[Text] New Delhi, March 19 (AFP) — Mystery shrouds the disappearance of a Soviet diplomat last seen jogging in a park here two days ago, with speculation mounting that he had defected or was kidnapped.

An Indian Foreign Office spokesman yesterday confirmed that Igor Gueza, 37, identified as third secretary in the Soviet Embassy's Information Department, had gone missing Sunday, but gave no further information.

After a reported alert issued by New Delhi police to all police posts, railway stations, the airport and major hospitals, a 10-man police task force today continued their search but reportedly had turned up no clues.

Police had raided several Afghan and Iranian refugee centres here, checking the possibility that Moslem political extremists had kidnapped the diplomat, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency reported.

The Islamic Movement for Afghan Resistance, an umbrella group of pro-freedom fighters, was one centre raided.

There also have been reports that Mr. Gueza was in isolation after suffering an attack of hepatitis, but police declined to take these reports serious, *THE INDIAN EXPRESS* newspaper said.

PTI said police had detained an unspecified number of people for questioning.

The Soviet Embassy has been tightlipped despite persistent querries from journalists.

Initial reports quoted Mr. Gueza's wife as saying her husband had left their house Sunday for his usual morning walk in a nearby park. His car, a Soviet-made Lada, was found parked outside the park.

PTI said dogs had picked up a scent from the car but had failed to trace it further.

Some reports said it was believed that Mr. Gueza had gone to the Soviet Embassy or to play tennis, then disappeared. Police have ruled out the possibility that he played tennis that morning.

Reports varied on who alerted police to the disappearance, with some attributing it to Mrs. Gueza and others to the Soviet Embassy.

Newspapers also issued conflicting reports today on Mr. Queza's official status, with some saying he had been at the embassy for six years and others saying he was not listed on India's list of personnel at the mission.

Some described him as an attache, and others said he was a third secretary in the information wing.

Many newspapers said he could have defected.

The *NATIONAL HERALD*, closely associated with the ruling Congress (I) Party, quoted diplomatic sources in a front-paged report as saying they "did not discount the defection theory, saying that the missing diplomat had been in India for the past six years and was shortly to be transferred."

The influential *TIMES OF INDIA* quoted informed sources as saying the possibility of Mr. Gueza "having defected to some Western country or been kidnapped by some other forces could not be ruled out."

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES quoting "highly reliable sources" said he had "in all probability defected to the mission of a leading Western power." An unnamed Soviet official rejected the defection theory, *THE HINDUSTAN TIMES* added: "There was no reason for Igor to defect. He had a high rank. If he had to do so he could have taken his wife and 10-year-old daughter also with him."

Air India Flight to Baghdad Canceled 18 Mar

BK181624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The Air India flight between Bombay and Baghdad today was canceled due to the Iran-Iraq war. According to a spokesman of the airlines, the flights will resume when the conditions become normal.

Yugoslav Prime Minister Arrives in Delhi 18 Mar

BK180744 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The Yugoslav prime minister, Mrs Milka Planinc, was given a warm welcome on arrival in New Delhi today on a day's visit. She was received at the airport by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Mrs Planinc will have talks with Mr Gandhi on international and bilateral matters.

Talks With Ghandi

BK181641 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Mr 85

[Text] The escalation of the continuing war between Iran and Iraq and India's initiative to defuse the crisis came up at the talks

between the visiting Yugoslav prime minister, Mrs Milka Planinc, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today. Mr Gandhi informed her about the two envoys he has sent to Tehran and Baghdad with special messages for the leaders of these countries, appealing to them to end the hostilities without further loss of life and property.

Mrs Planinc arrived in New Delhi today on a day's visit at the invitation of Mr Rajiv Gandhi. She is on her way back home after a tour of several Southeast Asian countries. Their talks also covered bilateral relations, particularly economic cooperation. Both sides showed keen interest to reverse the trend of falling trade between the two countries during the last 3 or 4 years. They also discussed the issues likely to come up before the Nonaligned Bureau meeting in New Delhi next month.

Mrs Planinc gave Mr Rajiv Gandhi an account of her talks with the leaders of the countries she visited. Earlier, Mr Gandhi hosted a lunch in her honor.

Further Reports on Talks

For Yugoslav media reportage on the talks between Milka Planinc, Yugoslav Federal Executive Council president, and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi, see the Yugoslavia section of the 19 March Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Gandhi Asks Iran, Iraq To Stop Hitting Civilians

BK161702 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] India has urged both Iran and Iraq to stop attacking each other's civilian targets as a first step toward ending their war. This should be followed by other measures of de-escalation, ultimately leading to a complete cessation of hostilities. In a statement in New Delhi today, the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, expressed grave concern at the sharp escalation in the Iran-Iraq war and the large-scale human suffering in both the countries. He said, in spite of an agreement by the two governments not to attack civilian targets, the latest information indicates that densely populated areas, including the two capital cities, have been attacked.

Mr Gandhi's statement followed his communications to the presidents of Iran and Iraq sent on Wednesday last [13 March] conveying to them the grave concern of India and the rest of the Nonaligned Movement over the continuing war between the two member nations. Mr Rajiv Gandhi appealed to them to find a way for ceasing their hostilities. He said India, both bilaterally and on behalf of the Nonaligned Movement, is prepared to do whatever it can toward this end.

According to information received in New Delhi, there has been no report of any Indian having been affected as a result of the latest spurt in fighting.

Messages to Iraq, Iran

BK181619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The prime minister's special envoy, Dr J.S. Teja, today met President Khamene'i of Iran in Tehran and handed over to him a message from Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Another envoy, Mr Venkateswaran, has also been deputed by Mr Gandhi to visit Baghdad to explore the possibility of ending the latest flareup. Mr Rajiv Gandhi had appealed to the leaders of these countries to stop attacking each other's civilian targets as a first step toward ending their hostilities.

Our West Asia correspondent says that in a message to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Iraqi president, Mr Saddam Husayn, said that his country is willing to halt the attacks on civilian areas if Iran did the same. He said Iraq is ready to stop fighting and reach a comprehensive settlement of the conflict.

Association Raps Zia Remarks on Indian Muslims

BK190332 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The members of (Waisi) Memorial Association have strongly protested against the statement of Pakistani President Ziaul Haq on the condition of Indian Muslims. In a statement issued in Calcutta, the association said that when the people of all sections of population in India are living in perfect harmony, the remarks of General Ziaul Haq have caused irreparable damage to the Indian Muslim community. The association wondered how a leader of another country could make such a statement concerning the people of another country.

Delhi Says Zia Against Parliamentary Opposition

BK170320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] President Zia has said he is against traditional parliamentary opposition but favors having a group to keep the government in check. Addressing a press conference in Lahore yesterday, the Pakistan president said having opposition groups in the assemblies is contrary to the precepts of Islam. But he said he is strongly in favor of a group of representatives who could keep the government in check through the process of accountability.

Foreign Secretary to Visit Nepal, Sri Lanka

BK181613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, is visiting Nepal and Sri Lanka this week. He will have talks in the two capitals on bilateral relations and other matters of mutual interest. After a day's trip to Katmandu on Thursday, he will go to Sri Lanka on Sunday on a 4-day visit. Mr Bhandari's visit to the two countries is in persuance of the prime minister's desire of practical steps to improve relations with neighboring countries. He is scheduled to go to Afghanistan and Pakistan also. The dates for these visits are being worked out.

Gujarat Strike 'Partial'; 170 persons arrested

BK181626 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] In Gujarat, some incidents of arson and stone throwing were reported today during the bundh [strike] in protest against the reservation policy of the state government. Essential services were unaffected.

The state home minister, Mr Amar Singh Chowdhury, told newsmen in Gandhinagar that the response to the call for the bundh was partial. Textile mills, factories, and government offices functioned normally. Markets and educational institutions remained closed. About 170 persons, including a few student leaders, have been taken into custody as a precautionary measure.

3 Killed, 8 Injured

BK190309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] In Gujarat, three persons died and eight were injured in police firing in (Dhariapur-Kalipur) locality in Ahmadabad when police fired to disperse a violent mob. Ten persons and some policemen were injured in these clashes. An indefinite curfew has been clamped in the area since 2230 last night. The city police control told our Ahmadabad correspondent this morning that tension prevails in the area. Stray incidents of arson and stone throwing were also reported last night in several other areas of the city.

Army Called Out

BK190919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] In Ahmadabad, army has been called out to help the police authorities in bringing the situation in riot affected areas of the city under control. The army has started patrolling in the disturbed areas of (Dhariapur) and (Kalipur) localities where a number of incidents of arson, looting, and stone throwing have been reported since the morning. An indefinite curfew has been clamped in some more areas in these localities. According to the city police control, the situation in the city continued to be tense.

Agency reports say that the violent incidents followed last night group clashes and police firing in (Dhariapur) locality in which three people were killed. Violent crowds indulged in looting, arson, and damaging property. The fire brigade units rushed in to extinguish fires.

AEC Chief on Developing Nuclear Reactor Fuel

BK181254 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 9 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] Bombay, March 8 — When the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) at Kalpakkam goes on stream in August next, India would gain the pride of being the first country in the world to use mixed uranium-plutonium carbide as the driver fuel for a nuclear reactor.

Disclosing this to newsmen here today Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Raja Ramanna said the manufacture of FBTR fuel from totally indigenous resources has established India's success in achieving self-reliance in such a sophisticated and front-line nuclear technology. This has generated utmost confidence in our venturing in the manufacture of fuels for the future larger prototype fBR-500.

Brimming with confidence, he said the country had developed indigenous capability for the entire spectrum of activities from the design and construction of nuclear power reactors to the establishment of facilities for the front and the back ends of the nuclear fuel cycle. "We can produce nuclear power, through indigenous efforts, with safety and economy," he added.

He said the country's competence in this direction is clear from the fact that our 15-year plan for generation of nuclear power of 10,000 mw at a cost of nearly rs 14,000 crore (at 1983 prices) would not have a foreign exchange content of more than three percent.

The five nuclear plants operating in the country were giving a net surplus of rs 150 crore a year. With the implementation of the 15-year plan of 12 plants of 235 mw each and 10 plants of 500 mw each, the net revenue earned by the nuclear power during 1984 — 2,025 will be a minimum of rs 60,100 crore. It would be possible to have an installed capacity of 3.50 lakh mw by the latter half of the next century, Mr Ramanna said.

He asserted, nuclear power is dependable, clean, safe, economically competitive or even cheaper energy option for the present and foreseeable future.

Mr Ramanna was assisted by Nuclear Board Chairman M.R. Srinivasan, BARC [Bhabha Atomic Research Center] Director P.K. Iyengar and nuclear fuel complex Chairman N. Srinivasan at the press conference. It was disclosed that France had agreed to meet the Tarapur atomic power station fuel demands up to 1993.

Dr Srinivasan said, "We have found that we do not need foreign help in the matter of spare parts for this power house."

They said the location of various power stations in the next 15 years was being considered and will be announced, after a decision has been taken for the eastern region. Dr Ramanna said, two units of 235 mw each will be located there near Kalinadi in north Karwar District in Karnataka. Another two units of the same capacity will be located at Kota (Rajasthan), where there are already two units. These units will be established in eight years.

Another major development is that the conceptual design of various systems and plant layouts has been completed for the 235 mw and 500 mw pressurised heavy water reactors. The feasibility report has been approved by the Atomic Energy Commission in principle.

The project schedule envisages commissioning of the first 500 mw unit by 1995. The construction work is slated to begin in January 1987.

Dr Ramanna said that the country has developed the capacity to concert nuclear waste into nonleachable vitrified glass which helps in storing the nuclear waste. The first radioactive glass block of 40 litre volume, was cast on March 4 last.

Rohini Series Satellite To Be Launched This Year

BK180331 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] India's first indigenous 150 kg satellite will be launched and placed in orbit later this year. This was indicated by the Department of Space in its demands for grants for 1985-86. The satellite will be launched under the Rohini satellite series.

Paper on U.S. 'Perversity' on Pakistani Elections

BK121415 Bombay TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 Mar 85 p 8

[Editorial: "Two Voices From U.S."]

[Text] In November last when General Ziaul Haq, Pakistan's military ruler, held one of the most bizarre referendums in history and proclaimed himself its victor by a 97.7 per cent majority, he must have expected some words of encouragement or felicitation at least from his friends and mentors in the West, especially in the U.S., who have been backing him to the hilt on the ground that he presides over a country that has become a "front-line state" in their scheme of things. But, to his chagrin, he encountered only eloquent silence. Even the Reagan administration did not have a single word to say, leave alone sending him a congratulatory message. The reason for this was not far to seek. As *THE ECONOMIST* of London, not a habitual critic of Gen. Zia by any means, pertinently remarked, the referendum was "an exercise so absurdly rigged that most communist governments would have been ashamed of staging it." Against this backdrop it would have stood to reason if the U.S. Administration had stuck to the earlier policy of maintaining a discreet silence also after the National Assembly elections in Pakistan from which all political parties and almost every leader of any consequence had been barred. But far from doing so it has rushed in with a relatively favourable comment in spite of the fact that the poll has turned out to be, for Gen. Zia, a far bigger disaster than the referendum was. The official spokesman of the State Department, Mr. Bernard Kalb, has described the election as a "step in the right direction" and although his tone is undoubtedly muted his intention clearly is to make out as if the election has gone some way to confer legitimacy on Gen. Zia even though the reality, as discussed in these columns yesterday, is just the opposite: The people of Pakistan have given a resounding verdict against Gen. Zia and for all he has stood for during the eight years since he overthrew Mr. Bhutto whom he later executed.

What can only be called perversity on the part of the U.S. Government and its spokesman is not without reason, however. Quite clearly, informed opinion in America has been aroused over Pakistan much more after the National Assembly election than it was after the referendum. And this is what seems to have prompted the U.S. Administration to speak up for the man who, on its behalf, is supposed to play in the Gulf these days the role that the late shah of Iran used to in the past. It is no mere coincidence that just when Mr. Kalb was saying his piece, several eminent Americans spoke up sharply against continuing U.S. military and political support to Gen. Zia. Some of them, including a former under secretary of state, Mr. Mathew Nimitz, went so far as to declare that the election in Pakistan was but a ploy to "further entrench an unpopular leader who is abandoning the rule of law and using Islam to justify his military government." Evidently, the Reagan administration anticipates even greater pressure for distancing the U.S. from Gen Zia's harsh and repressive regime and is therefore anxious somehow to forestall it. The need to do so has become all the more acute because the current U.S. military sales and economic aid programme for Pakistan ends in 1986. The Zia government not only wants it continued beyond that date but also wants alterations in the present arrangements with a view to accommodating Islamabad's request for 2 EC Hawkeye AWAC aircraft and other sophisticated equipment not included in the present dollar 2-billion package.

President Ziaul Haq Institutes Legal Amendments

To Constitution

BK190305 Karachi Domestic Service in English 17000 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The president and chief martial law administrator today promulgated the Constitution Second Amendment Order, 1985 which amends Article 98 [as heard], 239, and 270-A of the Constitution. It comes into force at once.

The amendment of Article 89 is consequential to the substitution of Article 70 and 71 of the Constitution by the Revival of the Constitution of 1973 Order, 1985.

The substitution of Article 239 of the Constitution relating to amendment of the Constitution is designed to make the amendment of the Constitution easier by transmigration with the requirement of all constitution bills passed by the Majlis-i-Shoora [Federal Advisory Council] being forwarded to the provincial assemblies for their concurrence.

Under the new article, (?ordinance) bills which would have the effect of altering the limits of a province will be required to be passed by the provincial assembly of the province concerned. The new article elaborates that a bill to amend the Constitution may originate in either house, and when the bill has been passed by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the house, it shall be transmitted to the other house If a bill is passed without amendment by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the house, it will be transmitted under Clause 1. It shall, subject to the provision Clause 4; be presented to the president for assent. If the bill is passed with amendment by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the house to which it is transmitted under Clause 1, it shall be reconsidered by the house in which it had originated and it should be as amended by the former house if passed by the latter by votes of not less than two-thirds of its total membership; it shall, subject to the provisions of the Clause 4, be presented to the president for assent.

A bill to amend the Constitution which would have the effect of altering the limits of a province shall not be presented to the president for assent unless it has been passed by the provincial assembly of that province by the votes of not less than two-thirds of its total membership. No amendment of the Consitution shall be called in question in any court on any ground (?whatsoever).

[Words indistinct] it is declared that there is no limitation whatever on the power of the Majlis-i-Shoora to amend any of the provision of the Constitution.

The amendment of Article 270-A of the Constitution is designed to provide that the president's orders made since the 5th of July 1977 shall not be altered, repealed or amended without the previous sanction of the president.

The president has also amended the Parliament Joint Sittings Rules, 1973. Under the amendment, a new rule — 5-A — is to be inserted after Rule 5. It says when both houses assembly together for the purpose of the address of the president under Clause 3 of Article 56, the proceedings shall be conducted and controlled by the president in such manner as he may deem fit, and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provision, the president shall, for that purpose, have all the powers vested in the speaker under these rules. It also says the address of the president shall, amongst other things, contain a statement of causes of the two houses being summoned.

To Election Order

BK191048 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The president has amended the houses of parliament and provincial assemblies election order to remove disqualification of spouses, sons, and daughters of various categories of employees and all such persons already elected will now continue to retain their seats. A presidential order to this effect which comes into force at once says that this has been done because several representations received have established that the disqualification has adversely affected the spouses, sons, and daughters of various categories of employees who are not in a position to influence a result of an election.

Simultaneously, the chief election commissioner or a person authorized by him has been empowered to declare the election of a husband, wife, son, or daughter of a person who holds any office of public in the service of Pakistan to be void if, after being provided an opportunity of being heard to person elected, he is satisfied that such holder of public office has exercised his influence or used his position in such a manner that the result of the election has been materially affected thereby. Upon the issue of such a declaration, the person concerned shall cease to be a member of the concerned assembly or a house and his or her seat shall become vacant.

PIA Suspends Flights to Tehran, Baghdad

BK191031 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Pakistan International Airlines has suspended its flights to Tehran and Baghdad with immediate effect in view of the escalating war conditions in the airspace of Iran and Iraq. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN quotes a spokesman of the airlines in Karachi as saying that the decision was taken in the interest of the safety of passengers and the aircraft. He added that the decision to resume the flights to the two capitals will be taken as soon as conditions permit.

Afghan Aircraft Violate Airspace; Protest Lodged

BK191027 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Four Afghan aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace yesterday and dropped nine bombs and fired a few rockets 1 km south of Arandu. No damage or casualties were reported.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this afternoon and a strong protest was lodged over this

unprovoked attack. He was asked to inform the authorities that if such attacks did not cease the entire responsbility for the serious consequences would rest with the Kabul authorities.

President Rejects Opium Consessions to Tribesmen
HK170242 Hong Kong AFP in English 0221 GMT 17 Mar 85

[By Sami Zubeiri]

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, March 17 (AFP) — Tension remained high in northern Pakistan this weekend as President Mohammad Ziaul Haq firmly rejected any concession to tribesmen who are fighting for the right to grow poppies and trade in opium.

A large number of Shinwari and Afridi tribesmen, whose home areas straddle the Pakistani-Afghan border, have risen in protest against Islamabad's crackdown on drug dealers and opium growers.

The provincial military governor, Lieutenant-General Fazle Haq told reporters Friday that three officials kidnapped by the rebels had been released, and that the situation was "well under control".

But Friday the tribes gave the authorities two days' notice to come up with a suitable answer to the dispute, failing which a jirga – a major tribal assembly — would be convened to chalk out a "future course of action," informed sources said. After dismantling more than 40 clandestine heroin laboratories in the tribal belt, the authorities recently launched a drive against the opium growers.

But their action led to a revolt by tribal chieftain Malik Wali Khan Kukikhel according to reports from the Khyber tribal office, which administers the Landi, Kotal, Bara and Jamrud border areas. Mr Kukikhel is said to have raised an army of several thousand men, and clashes have been reported at several places resulting in a still undetermined number of casualties.

Official sources said on Thursday that five people, including some Pakistani militia troops, died while battling with tribesmen who had blocked off the Pakistan-Afghanistan highway near Peshawar. At least eight soldiers and three customs officials were hospitalised in Peshawar for wounds received in the clashes, reports said.

The Kukikhel "army," equipped with Soviet-made Kalashnikov assault rifles, has taken up position in the mountains, while in some villages, heavy artillery has been deployed, sources in Peshawar said.

Local security forces have reportedly shelled the rebels' hideouts and officials on Friday said that Mr Kukikhel's house had also been demolished in a raid on Wednesday.

Lieutenant-General Haq told reporters that the tribal chief had not been arrested in the raid. Unconfirmed reports say that Mr Kukikhel and his supporters may have crossed into Afghanistan.

Mr Kukikhel has demanded what he terms the "unrestricted right" to cultivate opium, which he described as "the local mineral wealth."

He has founded his campaign on the border tribes' insistence that Western aid sent to compensate the destroyed drug crops either did not reach them or it was insufficient compared to their earnings through opium.

He has also demanded a ban on the entry of local militia to the opium-growing tribal area and use of tribal routes by police and troops.

One of the government's steps has been to close down a notorious market at the town of Bara run by tribal businessmen dealing in smuggled arms, ammunition, hashish and heroin transported on mule-back from Afghanistan.

The vigorous official campaign has brought down Pakistan's opium production from 800 tons in 1979 to less than 60 tons this year, Pakistan's Narcotics Control Board said.

The issue, while seemingly devoid of political content, now seems to have aroused Afghanistan's interest, as shown through its official reports of the clashes, as well as signs of Afghan troop movements.

Residents in the border region and travellers reaching Peshawar said that Afghan forces were moving towards the frontier, and troop concentrations could be seen from a Pakistani salient at Shamshad.

Afghan helicopters were seen flying near the Pakistani border towns of Landi, Kotal and Torkham in the Khyber Pass, while official sources confirmed that Afghan planes had intruded into Pakistani territory for three days running this week.

On Friday Gen Zia issued what appeared to be a veiled warning on Afghan intrusion, telling reporters in Islamabad that "we are in a position to defend our western and eastern borders."

Asked if the tough government measures could alienate tribesmen who might then cross the border and give their backing to the Kabul regime, Gen. Zia's reply was a terse "we don't care".

"We cannot bargain with drug peddlers, nor can we compromise on the principle" to banish opium cultivation, he said.

Tourists Leave for India Under Tourism Agreement
BK141602 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] The first group of 38 Pakistani tourists left Lahore for Delhi today. The visit, organized by the Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation, marks the beginning of the implementation of India-Pakistan agreement on tourism. The second group of 21 Pakistani tourists will leave for India on 19 March, while the first group of Indian tourists will come to Pakistan on 4 April.

New Helicopters Brought Into Army Aviation Corps

BK171151 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The Cobra helicopters were formally inducted into the Army Aviation Corps at a ceremony in Rawalpindi today. The president has sent a message of congratulations to the Army Aviation Corps on this auspicious occasion. The vice chief of the Army Staff, General K.M. Arif, was the chief guest at the ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, he said with the induction of these helicopters, the Army Aviation Corps has assumed a much more important and decisive role and its pilots will be among the frontline mujahidin. He said the induction of the helicopter is part of the government's efforts to strengthen national defense. He hoped that the pilots and men of the Army Aviation Corps will serve the nation with the Islamic spirit and add new chapters of glory to the history of the Armed Forces of Pakistan.

Radio Pakistan's representative says the iron-plated and (?sophisticatedly) equipped Cobra helicopter is basically an antitank weapon. It is armed with missiles, rockets, and a 20-mm gun. It flies at a very low level, and its fuel tanks can be automatically sealed if [words indistinct].

The ceremony was marked by a march past followed by air display by the Cobra helicopters.

Commentaries Examine Appointment of Prime Minister

DAWN Editorial

GF151032 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Mar 85 p 7

[Editorial: "Setting the Parliamentary Stage"]

[Text] With the filing of nomination paper for the Senate and the women's seats in the Provincial Assemblies, the electoral process can be said to have entered its final phase. In ten days from now the Senate, the National Assembly and the four Provincial Assemblies will have completed the remaining procedures, namely, election to reserved seats, oath-taking and election of speakers. Under normal parliamentary conventions, the appointment of the Prime Minister would be another vital step. In the absence of political parties, whose parliamentary strength normally is a good indicator of who is to be the Leader of the House, it is a matter of conjecture as to who will be called upon to fill that position. By virtue of the constitutional amendments announced on March 2, the President has the discretionary power to appoint from amongst the National Assembly members a Prime Minister who, in his opinion, is most likely to command the confidence of the majority. How the President will go about exercising this newly-acquired power is not clear. But it is plain that the methods adopted by him will have a precedent-setting aspect. This underlines the importance of adopting a correct procedure — both constitutionally and politically — all the more so because much confusion has been created by the intense manoeuvring and lobbying by some of the hopefuls and their backers. Names of different leaders are being mentioned as contenders for the Prime Minister's and Chief Minister's offices — though not all are members of the National Assembly or the Provincial Assemblies. One hopes that the President will not depart from the widely accepted parliamentary practices, which require the Prime Minister and his ministers to be members of the Assembly. It would be setting a poor precedent if the Prime Minister-designate were to be from outside the Assembly elected on February 25 and were to enter the house later in a bye-election. Much of the prevailing confusion and uncertainty surrounding this matter would not have been there if the provision regarding the timing and procedure of appointment of the Prime Minister had been already spelled out.

In some respects the Government has changed the rules for the better, although people have questioned the wisdom of introducing amendments in election laws after the polls have been held. For instance, there is now a bar against double membership of elected bodies, that is, a person cannot be a member of a local council and also retain his membership of the Provincial Assembly or Majlis-i-Shoora (Parliament). Another amendment lays down that a person who seeks election to one of the Assemblies and fails to get elected cannot contest for a Senate seat. In a society with well-established democratic traditions, many of these conventions do not have to be spelled out, for historical usage acquires the force of written laws where these are absent. In our case, where our political record is riddled with instances of chicanery, opportunism and lack of moral and ethical scruples, it is important that correct practices are not left to chance. If this is to be the beginning of the revival of the political and parliamentary processes, it is important that store is set by healthy traditions and widely recognised norms of parliamentarianism.

NAWA-E WAQT

GF181524 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 15 Mar 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The Search for a Prime Minister and Delay in the Process"]

[Excerpts] Speaking to correspondents some days ago at Sibi, President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq said he is checking the names of the proposed future prime ministers (Mr Ilahi Bakhsh Soomro, Mr Zafrullah Khan Jamali, and Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo) as well as some others, but no definite decision has been made. Of course, he said, he will see that the person who is given this position will be one who is happily accepted by the people and who has the confidence of the National Assembly. "We wish to give the nation a premier who is of sterling character as well as capable".

Another thing mentioned in connection with the necessary traits of a prime minister is that he should belong to one of the smaller provinces. Some voices have been raised in this regard saying that he should belong to the Punjab. As far as the Constitution is concerned, there is no hard and fast rule regarding this, but it has been a tradition that the president and the prime minister belong to different provinces so that all portfolios are distributed among the various provinces. In fact, it is a good idea to give the higher posts to people from all provinces so that all parts of the country have equal participation in the government.

If we do not see any person who combines all the desired qualities for the ideal prime minister and on whom the whole nation's eyes are pinned, it is not the fault of the politicians or the elected representatives of the National Assembly. The real culprit is the conditions under which we have been running our country without a definite system. Political parties and systems are like nurseries, but when every few years, there is no irrigation or nurturing and they are left to wilt and wither, then there is the emergence of a personality with the required stature. This is the reason why our esteemed president, who has run the country for 8 years, is finding it difficult to nominate a prime minister who has all the desired qualities.

THE MUSLIM Views President's Constitutional Powers

GF141634 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in Engiish 4 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "The Supreme President"]

[Text] The long-awaited amendments to the 1973 Constitution, announced by the President in his Saturday night address to the nation, are bound to arouse a great deal of controversy. The delay in announcing them had already led to demands that they should best be left to the elected Parliament to decide. Apart from the timing and the advisability of the President announcing these when a Parliament is already in place, the amendments amount to a radical restructuring of the President-Prime Minister relationship in the 1973 Constitution. While the absence of a balance between the two highest offices in the land was one aspect of our history's only constitutional document enjoying a national consensus, the President's broad pruning of Prime Ministerial powers will result in undermining authority of the head of government. Two amendments are particularly noteworthy in this respect. The appointment of the Cabinet is now a Presidential perogative, "on the advice of the Prime Minister," of course. Additionally, the President also has the power to unilaterally dissolve Parliament with the proviso that elections are held within a hundred days.

The net result of these will be to whittle down Prime Minister's status to practically that of a senior minister in the Cabinet, plus the likelihood that members of Parliament as well as those in the Cabinet will look to the President as the principal distributor of official munificence. With the Prime Minister bypassed in this re-ordered quasi-Presidential French-style system, the buffer between the President and Parliament will no more be there. The President will, in effect, call most, if not all of the shots under these amendments. Additionally, Presidential authority is reinforced by the newly granted power of vetting appointments of provincial Chief Ministers. This novel amendment may be perceived as centralising control and encroaching on the autonomy of provinces.

While there is no dispute that under the 1973 Constitution, the President was merely a figure head, the proposed arrangement rather than giving a "balance" may end up doing precisely what it was supposed to negate. With an all-powerful President and a virtually dependent Prime Minister, the office of head of state could once again be open to abuse of authority as was the case in the days of Ghulam Muhammad or Iskander Mirza.

However, these aspects notwithstanding there remain some saving graces in this arrangement. Happily the National Security Council does not seem to be a "back door" entry point for a constitutional recommendatory body with a civilian majority in its membership. There is also sufficient room for Parliament to assert itself, to override a Presidential veto on legislation or to demand the Constitution. Although this procedure has become quite complicated as now a majority of all four provincial assemblies will be required to amend the Constitution, apart from the usual two third majority in parliament.

Since man-made laws like the Constitution can also be undone by men, we would hope that Parliament - elected and sovereign - will in its collective wisdom, representing the popular will, endeavour to seek ways and means to strike a real constitutional balance between the President and Prime Minister. These amendments could also have the effect of offsetting governmental goodwill gained in the last few days because of the clean electoral exercise. The euphoria and expectations generated by the elections are bound to be dampened by these amendments. The principle of "robbing Peter to pay Paul" is not only wrong and unjust, but in the final analysis, it detracts from the objective it ostensibly seeks to serve.

THE MUSLIM Berates Lack of Constitutional Rule

GF171416 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Back to Square One"]

[Text] March 7 slipped silently into the night. It was eight years ago that the nation was cheated of its inalienable right to a free and fair election. The election was rigged to forestall a possible transfer of power, and the incumbent refused to submit to the bar of public opinion. This plunged the nation into a crisis which not only persists but has been further compounded.

Much has happened in or around Pakistan, but so far as constitutionalism and the rule of law are concerned, they have not moved an inch. The nation has been living from 90 days to 90 days and has survived due to its resilience and its confidence that it can seize its rights whenever it deems fit. Not that there was much constitutionalism before 7th March, 1977. One might concede that it was a period of terror and trauma for many who would not like to relive it; and that is all the more reason why a battered and bruised nation which has had just about enough, should not be made to go on suffering. The constitutional malaise is not only continuing, but has been further aggravated by fresh shocks. There is no doubt that the task of the regime inherited was a pretty tough one. Hence the failure of "Operation Fairplay" and Allah alone knows how many other "Operations X". The regime can genuinely claim to have made considerable contributions on many counts and it will not find the nation grudging or ungrateful. But so long as a constitutional rule continues to elude us, the balance sheet will show a deep red.

The regime must concede that neither the Referendum nor the elections nor the amendments gives it any more moral and political strength to believe that the fait accompli is final. If the nation could not accept the fait accompli of March '77, it will not do so now. Dissent under the present circumstances has been fully

expressed and must be respected as representing a large segment of the national will. Those who dissent need to be credited with greater patriotism and wisdom than the regime is willing to concede. Of the two political parties that decided to throw in their lot with the regime on the Referendum and the election, one has already come to grief and the the other may meet the same fate sooner than later. The political forces, and especially those clamouring for clear and undiluted contitutionalism and a democratic Islamic dispensation, need to do more than just clamour. The clarion call for regrouping of political forces and restructuring of a common strategy should be followed up. Can sanity prevail and the nation be moved out of Square One?

The constitutional amendments do not even deserve a debate. The crisis is far greater than just one of distribution of powers between President and Prime Minister, President and Parliament, or whether the National Security Council is virile or sterile. A national consensus in favour of the regime is definitely lacking and if the situation deteriorates the nation may suffer another round of confrontation. There is considerable gap and dichotomy between the President's post-election speeches and what has been grafted on the "mummy" of the 1973 Constitution.

The amendments on the one hand sanctify a suspect referendum, and on the other they actually veto the election exercise; and there is no doubt that both inside and outside the country the election exercise was more credible than the Referendum. The elixir of constitutionalism is necessary not only for its own intrinsic value but also because it is our only bulwark to defend the sacred salients of our nuclear programme, non-alignment, unswerving opposition to Israel, rejection of Indian hegemony, principled perceptions on Afghanistan and insistence on Islamisation.

The regime has done well to defend these despite talking from a creaking plank. The question is whether it can stand up to the pressures from our external "friends" and "foes" if it is not beefed up by a freely expressed national will?

International Protests Urged To Halt Afghan Raids

GF181508 Rawalpindi HAIDAR in Urdu
13 Mar 85 p 5

[Excerpts] Once again Afghan aircraft strafed the area 45 km from Chaman in Baluchistan Province in the northeastern post of Domandai violating Pakistani air space. They shelled the area with eight rockets but no loss of life was reported. The Pakistani Government lodged a protest with the Afghan charge d'affaires for this air violation.

Earlier, the violations of Pakistan's air space and such acts of provocation were directed at the NWFP but now they are directed at the Baluchestan area and have become routine. The summoning of the Afghan charge d'affaires has also become a regular formality. So far our warnings to the Kabul government have not borne fruit.

Pakistan's stance is that the Afghan problem should not be resolved militarily because this would result in a conflagration in the entire region. This does not mean, however, that we should content ourselves with protest notes and warnings to the Kabul administration on the possible repercussions of such acts, because it is trying to goad us into retaliating so that the situation would worsen. Therefore, we wish to suggest to Foreign Ministry authorities that such diplomatic efforts be employed on an international level so that all international organizations will realize that the Afghan administration is trying to undermine the security of the area. It seems that these violations have not been properly projected on an international level, nor have the UN organizations or the ICO been informed through proper diplomatic channels. Hence it is imperative to immediately draw attention to this issue and to prepare the ground work for diverting public attention on the diplomatic level. Only by exerting such pressure can this state of affairs be tackled.

PAKISTAN TIMES Discusses Iran-Iraq Conflict

GF171525 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English
14 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Ugly Turn in Gulf War"]

[Text] The Iran-Iraq conflict with a human toll running into hundreds of lives every day is now more than four and a half years old. With neither side apparently in a position to win and with each side determined to humble the other's pride, this bloody drama has become not only pointless but also cruel. The world did take notice of it in the beginning. The UN Security Council tried to intervene. There is still a high-level Islamic mission in existence to bring about a ceasefire. The repeated appeals by the Secretary-General of ICO continue to serve as a reminder to those, interested in the peace and well-being of the human race, of the complete futility and senselessness of this war. With time the world seems to have turned its back on it. The occasion on which the conscience of the world did not allow it to sit quietly by and watch the gory spectacle in silence was when the use of chemical weapons by one of the combatants was alleged, when torture of the prisoners of war by both was suspected, when civilian ships in the Gulf were made the targets of attack or when towns and cities of no military significance in both Iran and Iraq began to be bombed quite indiscriminately. The Secretary-General of U.N., with the active support of a number of representatives of concerned nations, managed to prevail upon the warring countries to desist from deliberate killing of non-combatant innocent civilians. A moratorium on shelling of civilian areas was accordingly negotiated and implemented in June last year.

Then all of a sudden Iran accused Iraq last week of having caused a bomb explosion in Iran. Iraq refuted the allegation. A dissident Iranian group working in Europe, in fact, claimed responsibility for it. Still Iran held Iraq responsible for it and asked the people of Basra, the second largest city of Iraq, to evacuate it as that was the target that Iran aimed to destroy in retaliation. Iraq said that if that happened it would be seen as a unilateral repudiation of the moratorium by Iran. And it would free Iraq to take any retaliatory measures that it considered necessary. Iran bombed Basra and Iraq Dezful. And as is inevitable in such a situation, the spirit of revenge and counter-revenge began to feed on itself. When Iranian long-range guns began to land shells in the streets of Iraqi towns the Iraqis replied by raining missiles on Iranian

civilian areas. Just in one strike against the Iranian city of Khorramabad 40 people were reportedly killed and 300 wounded. Casualty figures from Dezful and other civilian targets in Iran have yet to be complied. Just before the moratorium last year, 4600 Iranian civilians had already been killed and another 22000 been wounded. In just a few days of these attacks from both sides, hundreds of men, women and children have already been killed. Both Tehran and Baghdad have been bombed and the final toll may run into thousands. To what purpose? Being fully aware of the fact that such carnage will have no effect on either the military capabilities or the military outcome of war, the leadership in the two countries still indulges in this inhuman game. Why? Surely the personal hang-ups of the leaders are not worth the awesome price being demanded of their people. Does Islam, to which they both claim to adhere, teach them to take the upholding of their personal prides to this extent? If they have closed their ears to the voice of reason, surely they can still listen to the voice of their religion.

Khomeyni Receives Prime Minister, Ayatollah

LD181927 Tehran IRNA in English 1920 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 18, IRNA — Iran Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic Revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, received Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Today.

Also Ayatollah Taheri, imam's representative and the leader of Friday mass prayers in Esfahan, met with the imam today.

Khomeyni Comments on Iranian Borders Reported

GF181912 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 17 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni has said that the geographic area extending from the conversions of the western and eastern banks of the Gulf in the south until the city of Van [in Turkey] in the north and from Ashkhabad [in the Soviet Union] in the east until the banks of the Euphrates in the west, is the country of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This was unveiled in a secret publication belonging to the leaders of the ruling Islamic Republic Party [IRP] and is called "Sarate-e Mostaqim," [The Straight Path] of which limited numbers were recently distributed to a number of members of the afore-mentioned party in some main Iranian towns. According to the publication, Imam Khomeyni was answering a question sent to the imam's office by Mujahid Mohsen Rasul Kazemia year ago and was enquiring about the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The diplomatic sources which managed to get a copy of the publication Sarat-e Mostaqim, predict that the goals which the Iranian leader unveiled will create a severe argument inside the Iranian leadership. Also, its announcement or propaganda will result in big regional and international reactions. The sources believe that pressures imposed by some senior clergymen and government members in Iran are the reason for not declaring those goals in the current phase, or at least before the current war is over between Iran and Iraq, which entered its fifth year without any signs of solution.

Husayn, Mubarak Depart for 'Unsafe' Baghdad

LD181431 Tehran IRNA in English 1427 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 18, IRNA — Egypt's President Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn have departed Amman for Baghdad.

The Iraqi capital is completely unsafe and could be attacked at any moment.

The KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY (KUNA) which reported the departure, said the Iraqi imposed war had moved into a sensitive stage and would be a central topic of discussion in Baghdad.

Iran fired a missile at Baghdad today in retaliation for earlier Iraqi missile and aerial attacks on Iranian cities.

News agency reports from Baghdad said a newly-constructed building in central Baghdad had been completely destroyed by the attack just before noon Iraqi time.

The building was to be used as the new site for the Foreign Ministry.

Dutch Paper Interviews Foreign Minister Velayati

PM181657 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 13 Mar 85 p 9

[Interview with Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati by Jurriaan Kamp: "Iran Rules Out All mediation in the War With Iraq" — date, place not specified]

[Text] Since the 1979 Islamic revolution, the subsequent holding hostage of the U.S. Embassy personnel in Tehran and the war with Iraq, Iran finds itself internationally in a completely isolated position. The world turned its back on the new Islamic Republic, and where this did not happen Iran itself sharply dismissed former international — chiefly Western — partners.

In the last year there have been signs that Iran's international relations with the rest of the world are improving. But Iraq still enjoys by far the greater amount of international support in its conflict with the neighboring Iran of Ayatollah Khomeyni.

With its recent resumption of attacks on civilian targets Iraq runs the risk of losing some of this goodwill. A chance for Iran, which has always said that Iraq is the aggressor in the war, to win more support?

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati — an amiable pediatrician and one of the new members of the government without a religious function — does not, however, seem to be very concerned about international support: "Regardless of the support of other countries — the West in particular — we will continue along the road which will finally lead us to victory over Iraq. Our people have decided to defeat Iraq and the world will see that happen. The new bombardments of civilian targets do not mean that Iraq is in a strong position. Iraq is afraid to face our soldiers at the front and it is therefore attacking people who are not directly connected with the war. Iraq is avoiding direct confrontation because Saddam knows very well that his army does not have the enthusiasm to continue the war.

"The human factor is the most important element in every conflict. Take the history of the war in Vietnam. The Americans had large numbers of sophisticated weapons, but the Vietnamese decided to resist and they defeated the United States. They were pious people and our people are too.

"Four nights ago I was in a mosque. There were a lot of people there. They were all shouting slogans, "war, war...unto victory, despite these bombardments." In Iraq the situation is completely different. The people do not want to fight, but the government forces them to. We will win the war and put Iraq in its place again. Other countries' support for Iraq will not prevent us from reaching this goal."

[Kamp] Nevertheless, Iran's relations with certain countries are improving. From French reports it would appear, for example, that relations with France are improving. How is this possible?

France is still delivering arms to Iraq and also almost the whole of the Iranian opposition is staying in France.

[Velayati] Because of the French attitude, relations between Iran and France have been cold and unfriendly in the last 3 or 4 years. Recently there have been indications that France wants to remove the barriers between our countries. We will welcome every step by France in the direction of better relations. The first conditions for this are that France ends its support for Iran's antirevolutionaries, ends its arms deliveries to Iraq, and lifts its freeze on Iranian assets. We have often laid down these conditions and we hope that France realizes that Iran is a powerful country in the Middle East and that for this reason relations with Iran are important for France.

[Kamp] Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani has requested that relations with the Soviet Union be improved. That too is remarkable given the Afghanistan question and the Russian arms supplies to iraq.

[Velayati] Relations between Iran and the Soviet Union, as two neighbors, are good, as Rafsanjani said. Both of us attach importance to this. However, there are a couple of things over which we are not prepared to compromise with the Soviet Union. One of these is the question of Afghanistan. We consider that the Soviet Union should withdraw its troops from Afghanistan unconditionally. Goodneighborly relations do not mean that we will set aside our principles with regard to the Afghanistan question. We retain our rights and do not interfere in each other's internal affairs.

[Kamp] Relations with France and the Soviet Union are thus able to improve. Is it not possible to improve your relationship with the United States?

[Velayati] In the last 25 years the Americans have only acted inimically toward us. They organized the 19 August 1953 coup, they supported the regime of the shah, and after the revolution they remained supporters of that regime. And even now they do not hold back from hostility toward us. Hostility is the only thing we have seen from the Americans and our response fits this attitude.

[Kamp] There are rumors that guerrilla fighters are being trained in Iran for activities in other countries. Does this mean a more active spreading of the Islamic revolution?

[Velayati] We do not concern ourselves with the internal affairs of any country. We have no soldiers or guerrilla fighters in other countries. Every country is responsible for its own fate. This does not mean that we will not welcome positive developments in every part of the world which are in the interests of the world community. And what is being said about the training of guerrilla fighters in Iran is propaganda by our enemies.

[Kamp] About the war with Iraq. Would it be possible to talk about the conditions which Iran has set for an end to the war, namely: the restoration of Iran's territorial sovereignty, full compensation for the damage inflicted, and the departure of the regime of President Saddam Husayn?

[Velayati] Our position is clear. As long as our rights are not restored this war will go on. Just think about what you, the Europeans, did during and after World War II. The Europeans did not forget their violated rights after Hitler was defeated. The people responsible for the invasion and destruction were sentenced at the Nuremburg trials. We also want to look at this war from its roots. We want to prevent the conflict ending and our being attacked again a short time later when Saddam finds another opportunity. Thus the war must be really resolved and our violated rights will have to be restored.

[Kamp] In what respect then are there still possibilities for the Islamic Conference Organization or the United Nations, for example, to mediate over ending the conflict?

[Velayati] I have already said that the ultimate end to the war is on the front. Here I mean that our people and our government will only be satisfied with a decisive victory over Iraq on the field of battle. For this reason we rejected any mediation. We were forced into this war and this has made our people determined to fight for their violated rights and their lives. The end of the war is to be found on the battlefield. We will make it clear to the aggressor that attacking Iran will cost them dear and we will make those who have supported the aggressor understand that they have made a miscalculation with their support. Iran is not a country that you can attack.

[Kamp] But that does not alter the fact that relations with some of those countries (France, the Soviet Union) have been improved.

[Velayati] It is clear that the foreign policy of other countries in this world is not the same as our foreign policy. We do not allow our foreign policy relations with countries to be determined by whether or not they maintain relations with Iraq. If a country supports Iraq we will view this as a negative point in our relations with that country. But the whole of our foreign policy is not simply based on that. The majority of countries maintain relations with Iraq and this is no reason for us to break off relations with these countries. The foreign policy of a country is based on several factors and elements.

Pakistani President Briefed on War Situation

LD171115 Tehran IRNA in English 1035 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 17, IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, in a meeting with President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan, in Islamabad, Saturday, presented a written message of President 'Ali Khamene'i concerning repeated Iraqi attacks on Iranian civil areas in violation of the June 12 United Nations agreement and also Iran's policy of retaliation vis-a-vis such crimes.

During the meeting which was also attended by the Pakistani foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and the Iranian ambassador to Islamabad, Mahmud Musavi, Besharati reported on the massive loss of civilian and destruction caused by Iraqi attacks on Iranian civil areas. [sentence as received]

On the Iraqi-imposed war he told President Zia that one such example was Iraqi attacks on the southern city of Dezful which has claimed countless civilian casualties.

On the Iraqi regime's violation of the U.N. June 12 agreement calling for a halt on attacks on civilian areas, Besharati said that so far many documented cases of such violations have been reported to the U.N. It was expected that U.N. would take a proper measure against these violations, but, he added, it has failed to do so. Therefore, he continued, the only alternative left for the Islamic Republic was to retaliate.

The Pakistani president assured that in consultation with friendly countries he would make efforts so that the Iraqi regime would honor the June 12 agreement and refrain from attacking residential areas.

Besharati stressed that as the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced before, it will stand by the June 12 agreement if the Iraqi regime respected call of the U.N. secretary general.

A Foreign Ministry delegation comprising five ranking officials left Tehran last Friday for a tour of nine Asian and European countries as well as the United Nations, to inform them of Iraq's latest crimes such as attack on civilian areas and redeployment of internationally outlawed chemical weapons against Iran.

Besharati-Pakistani Counterpart Talks

LD180959 Tehran IRNA in English 0841 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Islamabad, March 18, IRNA — The Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, in a meeting here Sunday [17 March] with the Pakistani foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan, discussed the Iraqi imposed war on Iran, situation in the region and issues of mutual interest. The Iranian official also explained the Iraqi bombardment of the Iranian civilian areas and deployment of chemical weapons.

In a separate meeting with the Pakistani minister of finance and commerce, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Besharati discussed economic cooperation (?and in a) meeting with the deputy of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources, Iranian oil export to Pakistan was discussed.

Mansuri, Turkish Premier Discuss Gulf War

LD161807 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] The cultural under secretary in our Ministry of Foreign Affairs met and conferred with Turgut Ozal yesterday and handed to him a message from our prime minister, Mir Hoseyn Musavi. At this meeting, Mr Mansuri referred to the 1925 Geneva Convention banning the use of chemical weapons, and to Iraq's repeated use of these weapons throughout the imposed war against Iran, and said: Iraq continues to violate the contents of the Geneva Convention and is refusing to respond to the proposal made by the UN secretary general about not using chemical weapons. Last week, these weapons were used several times and this issue can be dangerous for the whole region.

Referring to the attacks on residential areas which have been made repeatedly in the past by the Baghdad regime, he emphasized the 12 June 1984 agreement and said: The Iraqi regime has attacked civilian and nonmilitary areas in our country more than 70 times, all of which have been recorded in detail. If this agreement is accepted by Iraq, Iran will continue to stick by it.

The under secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs then referred to the actions creating tension by Saddam in the Persian Gulf and said: This issue does not affect us alone and we expect this issue to be confronted decisively and seriously.

According to this report, at the end of the meeting, Turgut Ozal, the Turkish prime minister, expressed his regret over the increasing attacks by Saddam on residential areas during the past week and said: We condemn the use of chemical weapons and making targets of commercial ships and the bombardment of residential areas.

Turkey's President Condemns Iraq

LD171556 Tehran IRNA in English 1549 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Ankara, March 17, IRNA — Turkish president Sunday told an Iranian envoy that he opposed Iraq's use of chemical weapons and military attacks on civilians.

The envoy, Deputy Prime Minister Javad Mansuri, had given Turkey's President Kenan Evren a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i on Iraq's repeated infringement of international laws governing war.

Evren said: "We have repeatedly condemned attacks on civilians, ships or the use of chemical weapons and have expressed our views in meetings with Iraqi officials."

He said he will continue to exert efforts in this regard.

Mansuri had told the Turkish president that Iraq had repeatedly bombarded cities in Iran in violation of an agreement mediated by United Nation's Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on refraining from attacks on civlian areas.

He said Iraq has also refused to accept a call by the U.N. secretary general to halt civil areas attacks as of March 6.

Mansuri called on the Turkish president to exert pressure to force to stop Saddam committing further atrocities. Iran's Ambassador in Ankara Mohammad Ganjidoust was present in the meeting.

UAE Foreign Minister Updated on Iraqi 'Crimes'

LD162120 Tehran IRNA in English 1932 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 16, IRNA — Mounting Iraqi crimes in its imposed war against the Islamic Republic of Iran, including its latest employment of chemical weapons, were discussed in a meeting between Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Arab and UAE State Minister for Foreign Affairs Rashid ibn Abdallah 'Ali al-Nu'aymi, in the United Arab Emirates today.

The UAE minister was briefed on Iraqi spiraling bombardment of Iranian residential areas by the Iranian official, who said that although the Islamic Republic has the power to retaliate even more powerfully which it has proved, yet it stands ready to halt retaliatory attacks if Iraq ceases its aggressions upon Iranian civilian areas.

Al-Nu'aymi, meanwhile, stressed importance of brotherly and friendly relations between Iran and the UAE, and called for expansion of mutual relations. He also called for cessation of attacks upon residential areas, and announced his country's readiness to do all it could to bring it about. The UAE minister also expressed the hope that the international community would move immediately to try to bring about a halt to attacks on civil areas.

The Iranian deputy foreign minister is currently in UAE to submit a message of President 'Ali Khamene'i to the UAE head of state, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan about the recent developments of the Iraqi imposed war.

Khamene'i Message to UAE
LD171948 Tehran IRNA in English 1813 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 17, IRNA — Deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Arab, submitted a message of President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic to head of state of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan in Al-Ayn Saturday evening.

Referring to the friendly relations between the two countries of Iran and UAE, the deputy foreign minister explained Iran's stands on the Iraqi imposed war and the breaching of the U.N. sponsored June 12 agreement by the Iraqi regime as well as its bombardment of civilian and residential areas and Baghdad's redeployment of chemical weapons.

He added that the Islamic Republic was never willing to embark on missile attacks, bombardment of cities and non-military quarters and killing of defenceless people.

Arab said that the Islamic Republic only embarked on retaliatory attacks against Iraq's atrocities in missile attacking and bombarding cities and non-military areas resulting in massacre of innocent people. He said that the Baghdad regime took advantage of Iran's patience and commitment to Islamic and humanistic principles and intensified the scope of its crimes. The Islamic republic was inevitably forced to launch retaliatory strikes with due warning to Iraqis who would be affected. Arab noted that the Islamic combatants have exhibited their ability to reply to Iraqi attacks.

Arab also reminded that as Imam Khomeyni and other officials of the Islamic Republic have said, Iran wanted to use its arms against the Zionist regime but Saddam compelled Iran to use them for retaliation against his crimes. He reiterated the Islamic republic's readiness to halt attacks upon cities and civilian areas provided that a reciprocal reply be given by the Baghdad government.

Shaykh Zayid also stressed the need to further cement the brotherly and friendly relations between the two countries of Islamic Republic and UAE, and expressed regret over attacks upon civilian and residential areas. He also announced his readiness to do whatever he could to stop such attacks.

UAE Asked To Intervene
GF170900 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Iraq and Iran appealed to the international community to end the current war between them which began in September 1980 and which has escalated during the recent days.

An official source in Abu Dhabi said that Iran has asked UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to intervene to stop the current war between Iran and Iraq and to work to stop the war on towns which has escalated between the two countries during the recent weeks.

The Abu Dhabi-based newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today quoted an official source who said that the Iranian request came within a message which Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i yesterday and which was delivered by Mohammad Arab, Iranian envoy and deputy Iranian foreign minister.

Following his meeting with Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, the Iranian envoy said that his government is ready to stop shelling Iraqi civil targets in light of the 12 June 1984 agreement and in accordance with the call made by UN Secretary General Javier Perez De Cuellar.

Ambassador Holds Talks With Libyan Leader
LD161834 Tehran IRNA in English 1820 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 16, IRNA — Mutual relations between the Islamic Republic and Libya as well as the latest developments in the Iraqi imposed war and the region were discussed today in a meeting between Iran's ambassador to Tripoli, Mohamed Kazem Khonsari, and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Libyan leader.

During the meeting, Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi once again reiterated Libya's support for the Islamic revolution.

Velayati Arrives in Libya
GF170716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] According to IRNA, Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our foreign minister, left for Tripoli last night at the head of a delegation on a visit to Libya.

Upon arrival he was received by the secretary of committee for state and Libyan judiciary, the deputy secretary of the people's committee for foreign relations of that country, certain high officials, and the ambassador and diplomatic officers of Iran in

Tripoli. Upon arrival in Tripoli, Mr Velayati told IRNA that his visit to Libya concerned matters of mutual interest between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Libya. He said in view of recent developments in the region, it is essential that more exchanges of views should take place between brothers and friends.

Mr Velayati added that he will inform the Libyan brothers about the latest developments in the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran.

Our foreign minister yesterday left Tehran for a series of meetings with the officials of Libya, Algeria, and Syria.

Velayati Meets Jallud
LD180941 Tehran IRNA in English 0830 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli, March 18, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in a three-hour meeting with 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Command Council, here Sunday, explained violation of the United Nations June 12 agreement by the Iraqi regime.

Velayati is currently heading an Iranian delegation in a tour of Libya, Algeria and Syria to inform leaders of these countries of the latest developments in the Iraqi-imposed war and Iraqi attacks on Iranian cities in defiance of the agreement.

During the meeting Velayati stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran, as an Islamic duty to save the lives of defenceless Iranian civilians who have been victim of the Iraqi air and missile attacks, and in order to halt these assaults, had to retaliate.

He further said "as long as the Iraqi regime does not stop attacking Iranian residential areas Iran will continue to retaliate." He also informed the Libya official of the victories made by the Iranian forces in warfronts.

Jallud expressed his concern over escalation of attacks on cities and stressed that June agreement should be abided by. Velayati said "Iran was willing to stand by the agreement if the Iraqi regime was also willing to do so."

Al-Qadhdhafi Praises Iran; Velayati Leaves
LD181543 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 18, IRNA — Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi praised Iran for upholding humanitarian and Islamic values in the course of the Iraqi imposed war, when he met Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati for 45 minutes Sunday night.

Al-Qadhdhafi also praised the steadfastness of the Iranian people who have resisted Iraqi bombardment of civilian quarters.

'Ali Akbar Velayati had told the Libyan leader that Iraq has repeatedly violated the June 12, U.N.-sponsored agreement on refraining from bombing civilian areas.

Velayati left Tripoli Monday after a visit during which he met a number of senior Libyan officials.

Algerian President Receives Velayati, Message
LD182045 Tehran IRNA in English 2015 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 18 IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati submitted a message of President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic to his Algerian counterpart, Chadli Bendjedid in Algiers today.

During the two hour meeting, Foreign Minister Velayati stressed that Iran had been compelled to retaliate Iraqi attacks on civilian areas after the breaching of the U.N.-sponsored June 12 agreement by the Baghdad regime. He added that the Islamic Republic was ready to stop these attacks if Iraq too promised to discontinue bombardment of Iran's residential areas and cities.

Referring to the latest developments of the Iraqi imposed war, Dr. Velayati said that as it has declared from the very beginning of the war, the Islamic republic will continue the war as long as the aggressor has not been punished. Because, he added, we believe that the region will never again experience peace, stability and tranquility as long as the present regime rules over Iraq.

The foreign minister arrived in Algiers Monday to explain the stand of the Islamic republic towards the recent developments of the Iraqi imposed war. The foreign minister earlier visited Libya and talked with Libyan leader on the same issue. His meeting with President Chadli Bendjedid took place immediately upon his arrival.

Before his departure from Tripoli, Dr. Velayati told IRNA reporter that it was necessary to inform the friendly countries of the very important developments taking place at battlefronts, as well as the victories of the Islamic combatants and the violation of international and humanitarian laws by the Iraqi regime.

Talking about the war developments, he said that this would be a fateful battle and even the enemies of the Islamic republic have confessed to the outstanding victories of Islamic combatants. Mentioning Iraq's deployment of chemical weapons against the Islamic combatants at the battle scenes, he said that the Islamic republic has warned the international organisations in this regard and asked them to take necessary measures in stopping the aggressor Baghdad regime.

On Iraq's decision to air raid more civilian areas, the foreign minister said that this further proves that the Baghdad regime is not at all bound to humanitarian principles. He also reminded that the Iraqi regime once before attacked an Algerian passenger plane carrying the late Algerian foreign minister. Thus, he said, remembering the facts we know about the Iraqi Government, we will not be surprised at such decisions. The foreign minister stressed that the Iraqi regime embarks on such acts because it is unable to counter the Islamic combatants at the battle fronts.

Dr. Velayati is also due to visit Syria to submit President Khamene'i's message to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Kazempur-Ardabili Meets Perez de Cuellar at UN

LD190839 Tehran IRNA in English 0834 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19 IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Affairs Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili, in a meeting with the United Nations secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, Monday at the U.N. headquarters explained the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the inhuman actions of the Iraqi regime and its deployment of chemical weapons.

During the meeting he also talked about Iraqi air and missile attacks on Iranian cities and also its attacks on ships in the Persian Gulf waters.

He further reiterated the willingness of Iran to halt attacks on civilian areas provided that Iraq made a similar commitment. He stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran was against such attacks. However, faced with savage and brutal attacks of the Iraqi forces on Iranian cities, Iran had no other alternative.

Indian Envoy Brings Message on Gulf War

LD171912 Tehran IRNA in English 1844 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 17, IRNA — A special envoy of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi arrived in Tehran Sunday to submit a message to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i regarding the recent escalation of the Iraqi imposed war.

J.S. Teja told reporters at the airport that "Prime Minister Gandhi has addressed a message to president of Islamic Republic of Iran... regarding the escalation of the war and he has appealed to both sides for cessastion of hostilities".

He said he will be discussing the message with Iranian leaders.

"One of the points which has been mentioned (in the message) is that a way should be found to avoid hitting civilian targets in terms of the (U.N. sponsored) agreement of June 12, 1984," Teja said.

Iran and Iraq agreed to halt bombardment of civilian areas, as of mid-June 1984 after appeals by U.N. secretary general, but Iraq later resumed intense attacks on Iranian cities.

Last week Iranian government sent messengers to a number of European and Asian countries, including India, regarding the new Iraqi aggression.

India is the head of the Nonalignment movement of which Iran and Iraq are both members.

"India has appealed several times in the past that civilians should not be attacked ...and it supports all efforts that will lead to the stopping of attacks in civilian populations," Teja said.

On Iraq's repeated use of chemical bombs he said "it is quite clear that nobody can be in favour of the use of such weapons, and this and other issues are naturally part of the discussions here".

On the recent appeal by the United Nations secretary general to halt shelling of civilian targets the Indian envoy said he has not "heard or seen the call but naturally India supports all efforts that will lead to the de-escalation of hostilities in this area".

"Prime Minister Gandhi is deeply concerned about the ongoing conflict," Teja said.

The Indian envoy predicted that relations between Iran and India hold "Preat promise for the future not only in political cooperation but also for peace, stability and progress."

He said he was very happy to be in Tehran.

Khamene'i Responds to Gandhi

LD181808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] India's deputy foreign minister today submitted a written message of Rajiv Gandhi, India's prime minister, containing proposals for stopping the attacks on civilian targets, to president Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. In response to the proposal of the Indian prime minister about stopping the attacks on nonmilitary targets in Iran and Iraq, khamene'i, emphasizing the defensive and preventive position of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding attacks on civilian targets, said: We welcome the Indian proposal, and India can try its ability in this field and show its capability in safeguarding security in the sea, air and cities, and preventing the use of chemical weapons. Emphasizing the fact that attacks on nonmilitary targets are contrary to the policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Khamene'i said: During 3 and 1/2 years, when Iraq attacked nonmilitary cities of Iran, Iran did not retaliate in kind, until the dimensions of the crimes of the Iraqi regime forced us to take preventive measures. When the issue of the 12 June agreement was raised, we welcomed it and accepted it; we did not retaliate against Iraq's repeated attacks until 10 days ago, when Iraq continued its attacks on nonmilitary targets in our residential towns and forced us to retaliate.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council emphasized: We also gave an immediate positive response to the request of the UN secretary general to stop attacks on civilian targets. However, Iraq did not accept those requests and continued its attacks. Now, too, on the basis of its policy not to attack nonmilitary targets, the Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the request of the Indian prime minister. Referring to the role of foreign governments in limiting the dimensions of the war, the president said: If the Indian Government had accepted our request in 1980 to condemn the aggressor, today the war would not have reached its present stage.

Emphasizing the policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran about safeguarding the security of the air, sea and international routes, the president said: Insecurity is a contagious disease; and now, continuing its aggressive policies, Iraq has threatened aircraft which come from Europe.

Addressing the deputy Indian foreign minister, the president added: Tell the Indian prime minister, on my behalf, that the experience of not condemning the aggressor has been unsuccess-

ful. By making use of this unsuccessful experience, even now you can condemn the side which started the attacks on towns and on ships, and condemn the side which threatens civilian aircraft carrying innocent passengers. To condemn the aggressor and criticize aggression is the best way to prevent the extension of aggression from land to air and sea.

Continuing his speech — while welcoming the message of the Indian prime minister and referring to the weak position of international organizations in solving the issue of the war — Khamene'i said: There is absolutely no hope for solving such issues in international organizations, because the United Nations was not able to make Iraq submit to its attempts in preventing the attacks on towns.

At the end of his address, the president said: In the issue of the war, the Nonaligned Movement has been left behind. Two years ago the Iraqi regime announced that it had started the war, but the Nonaligned Movement is still looking for the aggressor. The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: If you have accepted that the Iraqi regime is the aggressor, now you should find ways of confronting the aggressor.

Guinea-Bissau Delegation Departs Tehran

LD152224 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 mar 85

[Text] The political-economic delegation of Guinea-Bissau, led by that country's vice president and defense minister, who delivered a message to our country's president, left Tehran this afternoon after a 4-day visit, during which they met President Khamene'i, Prime Minister Musavi, and Foreign Minister Velayati.

During this visit the delegation held talks with officials of the oil, mines and foreign affairs ministries on political and economic issues. After studying various fields for cooperation, some agreements were reached between the two countries in the economic, cultural, and technical fields.

The two countries also signed a memorandum of understanding emphasizing the need for economic cooperation, oil transactions, other nonoil commercial transactions, exchanges of mineral, agricultural, and industrial goods, acceptance of students from Guinea-Bissau, and the dispatch of Iranian experts to Guinea-Bissau.

Also during its stay in our country, the delegation visited the aluminium smelting factory of Arak.

18 Mar Reportage on Badr Operation, Results

Conditions in Basra Reported

GF180538 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The city of Basra, the second largest Iraqi city, has become a deserted city after losing its role in [words indistinct] in light of shelling by the soldiers of Islam for 8-days running. Reports from Basra indicate that telex and telephone lines between this city and other Iraqi cities have been cut following the shelling of vast areas of this city. The Iraqi authorities have deliberately cut contact lines between this city and other Iraqi cities in order to conceal their losses.

Travelers who have succeeded in departing Basra report that daily activities in the city are totally disrupted and that its residents who have failed to leave it remain in their shelters. Reports indicate that the residents of one of the areas of Basra succeeded in leaving the city after clashing with the armed forces and popular army who are preventing the people remaining in the city from leaving. Other reports indicate that following the continuous shelling of Basra and the cutting of roads leading to it, the military forces remaining in the city are suffering from food and fuel shortages. Travelers who have left Basra recently said that the shelling of Basra has resulted in the cutting of electricity in many parts of the city and destroyed vital installations including a number of stores, police posts, and government buildings.

Communique on Fighting

GF181347 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Communique No 11 issued by Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. In the Badr operations, which were in answer to the bombing of houses, schools, and hospitals and all the private and public installations of our country, about 7,500 of Saddam's armed forces personnel were killed or wounded, and among whom a considerable number of senior officers and commanders of Saddam's armed forces were scattered on the battlefield.

Similarly, more than 1,100 of the Iraqi soldiers and officers were taken captive by the Islamic combatants. In these victorious operations the whole area of the Hawr al-'Azim in the south of Al-'Amarah and all the posts in this area and the important Khandaq highway have been conquered by the forces of Islam. About 180 tanks, armored personnel carriers, and a large number of military vehicles of the enemy were destroyed, and a large quantity of equipment and arms and ammunition were taken as booty by the Islamic combatants.

Doctors Not To Leave Esfahan

GF181421 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1402 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] The Esfahan Medical Association has issued an announcement. They have asked all doctors not to leave town until further notice due to the present circumstances so that their services may be used if needed.

Four Iraqi Planes Downed

LD181603 Tehran IRNA in English 1604 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 18, IRNA — Four Iraqi warplanes were downed by Iranian antiaircraft fire and Air Force fighter planes today.

One MIG aircraft was shot down over Tehran at 5:30 pm (14:00 GMT) Monday. Iraqi planes violated Tehran airspace three times during the day, only breaking the sound barrier.

The MIG crashed in the Gardaneh Quchak mountain area, north east of Tehran.

One enemy MIG aircraft was also shot down over Tabriz in north west Iran today and another MIG and a Sukhoi-22 were downed in the southern warfronts.

Casualties From Tabriz, Arak Raids

LD181620 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 18 IRNA — The casualties of the Iraqi air raid upon Tabriz in East Azarbayjan Province, today rose to 11 martyrs and 45 injured (until 14:10 hours local time, 10:40 GMT). Four of the injured were hospitalised and the rest received minor treatment.

Iraqi aircraft dropped four bombs upon the residential areas of Tabriz today destroying one mosque and several housing units.

Meanwhile, today's bombardment of Arak, in Central Province, claimed the lives of six persons and wounded 31 others. Two children were among those martyred.

In another development, two Iraqi airplanes intended to bombard the residential areas of Piranshahr, in northwest Iran at 10:30 hours local time (07:00 GMT) Monday but were forced to retreat before carrying out any operations.

Joint Staff Report

LD181743 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] According to a report from the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, heavy artillery fire of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran yesterday was directed at military and economic installations in Basra, Sayyid Sadiq, Halabchah, Khormal, Shanehdari, Mandali, Khanaqayn, Badra, Zurbatiyah, Qamhazar, (Qurum Hazarandah), Jalilah, Biyarah, and Tuwaylah, resulting in considerable losses and casualties for the aggressor Ba'thist rulers of Iraq.

Between 1100 and 1130 today, the Ba'thist regime of Iraq subjected Tabriz, Hamadan, Bakhtaran, Esfahan, Arak, and Qazvin to air raids. In Tabriz and Arak a number of our dear compatriots were martyred or wounded and a number of houses were wrecked. In other cities, the fighter aircraft of our air force and our antiaircraft units prevented the enemy from carrying out any operations and forced the enemy planes to flee.

Bushehr Volunteers Leave for Front

GF181455 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] In continuation of the extensive departure of the self-sacrificing youth of Bushehr Province for the battlefronts of right against wrong, another group of mobilization members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Dayyer left this morning for the scenes of battle. According to a report by the Central News Unit, these zealots of the army of monotheism were seen off warmly by a group of Dayyeris.

Aghajari Volunteers Leave for Front

GF181456 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] In continuation of the departure of the infidel-battling forces of our Islamic country to the fronts of light against darkness, this afternoon a large group of people's mobilization forces left for the fronts of truth versus falsehood from Aghajari District, amid special ceremonies, to mete out the final blow on the decrepit form of the Zionist Iraqi regime.

Iraqi Losses Listed

LD181859 Tehran IRNA in English 1820 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Tehran, March 18, IRNA — The Khatam ol-Anbiya Joint Operational HQs Monday announced the achievements of the recent Badr operation launched east of Tigris last Monday. It hailed the victories of the combatants and said Badr was an "answer to Iraq's bombardment of civilians and a slap in the face of Iraqi rulers".

One of the operational commanders of the Khatam ol-Anbiya HQs gave the following details on the destruction of Iraqi units in operation Badr, east of Tigris:

— 429th Infantry Brigade, 100 pc [as received]
— 93rd Brigade, 100 pc
— 94th Infantry brigade, 100 pc
— 65th Special Forces Brigade, 100 pc
— 5th Brigade of 4th Mountain Infantry Division, 70 pc
— 24th Brigade of 4th Mountain Infantry Division, 50 pc
— 1st Brigade of Presidential guards, 50 pc
— 4th Brigade of Presidential Guards, 50 pc
— 66th Special Forces Brigade, 50 pc
— 51st Brigade of 1st Division, 40 pc
— 27th Mechanised Brigade of 1st Division, 40 pc
— 30th Armoured Division, 30 pc
— 6th Armoured Division, 30 pc
— 34th Armoured Brigade of 1st Division, 20 pc
— 17th Armoured Brigade of 10th Division, 20 pc
— 24th Mechanised Brigade of 10th Division, 20 pc
— 10th Armoured Brigade of 50th Mechanised Division, 10 pc
— Commando forces of 4th Army, 10 pc

He also listed some of the enemy weaponry destroyed so far: two MIGs and four PC-7 aircraft, five helicopters, 200 various

military vehicles, 40 pieces of various artillery guns, and 60 pieces of various mortar launchers. Three engineering and concrete bridges were also destroyed.

Hundreds of tanks, personnel carries and vehicles, 50 mortar launchers, two radar equipment and an "uncountable" amount of light weapons, ammunition, and communications equipment were seized undamaged by the Islamic forces.

Rudan Volunteers Depart for Front

GF181543 Bandar 'Abbas Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] According to a report from our correspondent in Rudan, coinciding with the recent victories of the heresy-removing army of unity in the glorious Badr operations, and following the departure of the warriors of the army of Islam to the battlefronts between light and dark, this morning a fresh group of mobilization forces received a warm farewell from the ever-present ummah of Rudan.

Shouting war, war until victory and anti-oppression slogans, they marched past the mobilization headquarters of the Rudan Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps and left for the fronts of the imposed war.

19 Mar Reportage on Badr Operation, War Results

'Warriors of Islam' Hit Baghdad

GF190535 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit the warriors of Islam attacked the heart of Baghdad with missiles at 0527 today, once again shaking Saddam's palace of cruelty.

This was in retaliation for the crimes of the Zionist regime of Saddam in attacking civilian areas of our country.

Missile Hits Baghdad Industrial Area

LD190600 Tehran IRNA in English 0558 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19 IRNA -- An industrial point in Baghdad was pounded by a ground-to-ground missile at 05:27 hours local time (02:03 GMT) today. The attack is said to have inflicted considerable losses and damage.

According to reports, before the huge explosion which shook the Dora District of Baghdad today, a strong glare was seen followed by a horrible explosion.

The Baghdad officials have as usual refrained from disclosing any information in this regard.

There is no precise report yet on the scope of the explosion and the extent of damage and losses inflicted.

This was the fourth Iranian missile which hit Baghdad in the past week.

Defense Council on Baghdad Attack

GF190540 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] A source close to the Supreme Defense Council has commented on the fourth rocket attack of the Islamic Army on the heart of Baghdad. This attack took place at 0527 today [0157 GMT].

He told the people of Iraq: The powerful Army of Islam is only relatilating against rocket and air attacks of the Baghdad regime on Iran's civilian areas and mercantile ships in the Persian Gulf. This is why it is attacking Baghdad with rockets.

He added that these rockets are only aimed at the hearts of Baghdad's rulers and their centers of control. Maybe the rulers of Baghdad will come to their senses and will stop their attacks on towns and demilitarized centers in Iran.

According to this source, if the Zionist regime of Iraq continues its attacks on civilian areas in Iran and on mercantile ships in the Persian Gulf, the forces of Islam will continue their policy of relatiation by delivering more tough blows against Baghdad. They will turn this city into a pile of rubble for its rulers.

Operations in Badr Area

GF190610 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] According to reports received from the Badr operations area, the forces of Islam have mopped up the areas they have taken under their control. They have established their positions over 500 square km of the important oil-rich Hawr al-Hawizah region.

The flood-dam of (Araq Chordeh) and the villages of (Torabeh), (Fajreh), (Dast) and (Lahuj) are among the places that have been taken by the warriors of Islam.

According to the announcement of the Khatam ol-Anbiya Joint Operational Headquarters, the warriors of Islam continued to use heavy artillery and light weapons in the Badr operations area and foiled all feeble Iraqi attempts to infiltrate into the liberated areas of Hawr.

Reports gathered by the Central News Unit correspondents indicate that since the start of the successful Badr operations hundreds of the enemy's tanks and armored personnel carriers have been destroyed. Also much computerized (Razid) radar equipment [as heard], numerous vehicles, mortar launchers and communications equipment have either been destroyed or taken intact by our forces.

Volunteers Go to War Areas

GF190640 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Thousands of popular forces from 23 towns and cities and from two provinces in our country have gone to join the warriors of Islam on the battle fronts.

According to the Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, during the past 2 days large groups from the mobilization unit and from the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps [IRGC] from the provinces of Bushehr and Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad and the towns of Ardabil, Tabriz, Sabzevar, Qom, Qazvin, Mahallat, Arak, Shiraz, Hamedan, Dehdasht, Minudasht, Borujerd, Birjand, Torbat-e Jam, Babol, Nur, Goagan, Kordkuy, Bandar-e Gez, Ferdows, Darrehgaz, Gonabad and Mamasani were given a warm farewell by the hezbollah people before going to the war fronts.

Iraqi Families Flee Baghdad

LD190701 Tehran IRNA in English 0655 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19 IRNA — Many of the Iraqi rulers have moved elsewhere members of their families following Iran's air and missile attacks on the Iraqi capital which has made Baghdad unsafe.

A first group of these people have reportedly arrived in Kuwait over the past few days.

Informed sources told IRNA that about 100 family members of 12 top ranking Iraqi officials have been stationed in a six storey building in the neighborhood of Bridgestone Hotel at 'Abdallah Ahmad Ave and the Kuwaiti regime has adopted special security measures to protect their lives.

According to a number of Kuwaiti Muslims, more new apartments in Ferdos District have been allocated for those Iraqi families who are expected to flee Baghdad in the coming days.

The same sources said Baghdad had become quite unsafe following Iran's air raids and missile attacks on the Iraqi capital during the past week.

Reliable sources also disclosed that many hotels in the four holy cities of Karbala, al-Najaf, Al-Kazimiyah, and Samarra have been reserved for families of prominent Ba'th Party officials.

Iran has announced it will not attack these four holy regions in its retaliatory attacks against Iraqi cities.

Baghdad 'Silent' on Missiles

LD190935 Tehran IRNA in English 0928 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19, IRNA — The Iraqi regime has remained silent on the latest Iranian missile attacks on the capital city of Baghdad and has so far refrained from attributing the Tuesday morning missile attack on Baghdad to bomb explosion by the socalled saboteurs.

The Iraqi regime which was thinking in vain that the Iranian retaliatory missile attacks would be limited, after the first Iranian attack on Kirkuk and Baghdad which destroyed the rafidayn building and several others, attributed them to bomb explosions carried out by opposition groups.

However, now after the repeated Iranian retaliatory missile attacks on Iraqi cities, the Iraqi regime in order to save its face, has dropped such claims. Therefore, it has made no comments on the Monday and Tuesday Iranian ground-to-ground missile attacks on Baghdad.

Political observers believe that such irrational claims made by the Baghdad regime had an adverse effect — making a confession of the powerful position of the groups opposing the ruling Baghdad regime.

Therefore, fearing that repeating its previous claims would further boost the morale of the Iraqi Muslim mujahideen and the Iraqi people, the Iraqi regime has been silent for the past two days, as though nothing had happened in Baghdad.

Furthermore, political observers indicate that the Iraqi regime is doing its best to conceal from the Iraqi people the fact that Iran has surface-to-surface missiles capable of hitting Baghdad.

Hamadan, Khorramabad, Bushehr Hit

LD191126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] According to the correspondent of the news unit of the Voice and Vision from Hamadan, at 1050 this morning Iraqi planes bombarded one of the residential areas of Hamadan, as a result of which eight Hamadan citizens were wounded and four houses were demolished.

The attack by the Iraqi planes on Khorramabad which took place at 1055 hours this morning was foiled by the timely fire of the defense unit stationed in the region. Iraqi planes dropped their bombs on the heights surrounding the city of Khorramabad.

The Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision reported that at 1030 this morning, Iraqi planes violated Bushehr airspace and fired four rockets at locations around the town which did not cause any casualties.

Air India Flights to Baghdad Reported Cancelled

LD181233 Tehran IRNA in English 1221 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] New Delhi, March 18, IRNA — Officials of Air India airlines have suspended flights to Baghdad because of the closure of Baghdad's international airport for unknown reasons.

Contacted by IRNA, New Delhi Airport officials said Air India flight No. 801 which was due to fly from Bombay to Baghdad today, was cancelled after receiving a telex from Baghdad saying the airport was closed.

Iraqi Opposition Groups Go To War Fronts

LD180949 Tehran IRNA in English 0840 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Qom March 18, IRNA — Iraqi political and religious opposition groups Sunday Left the holy city of Qom for the southern battlefronts of the Iraqi-imposed war.

The Iraqis had earlier paid a pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Hazrat Masomeh, where they reiterated their allegiance to the Islamic revolution.

The group included members of the Executive Committee of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, Ulema and Muslim Mujahideen.

The city of Qom holds one of the largest theological schools in Iran. The shrine of Hazrat Masomeh, sister to Imam Reza, the eighth imam of the household of the Prophet, attracts thousands of pilgrims every year.

Iraqi Sabotage Slated for Iraqi Holy Cities

LD180947 Tehran IRNA in English 0835 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran March 18 IRNA — The Baghdad regime intends to carry out acts of sabotage in the holy cities of Karbala and Samarra and blame Islamic Republic of Iran for them, informed sources said here today.

Iran has declared four holy cities of Karbala, Samarra, Al-Najaf and Al-Kazimiyah as safe zones and immune to military operations.

Sources said that following the Iranian announcement, the population of the four cities has increased and security forces are losing control of the cities.

Trucks En Route to Kuwait Delayed by Shelling

GF161338 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] An Economic report carried by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* yesterday said that a big convoy of trucks loaded with food provisions, vegetables, and fruits from Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon has stopped at the Iraqi city of Al-Nasiryah due to Iranian artillery attacks on Basra. The convoy is waiting for routes to be reopened in the governorate of Basra in order to continue its journey to Kuwait.

Shiraz Organization Rebuilds 26 Helicopters

LD151001 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that by the efforts of workers and engineers from the helicopter services organization in central Shiraz, for the first time 26 obsolete helicopters have been rebuilt and made ready for use. Previously the rebuilding of helicopters was carried out by British, French and Dutch specialists.

According to the same report, one of the officials of the helicopter services organization in central Shiraz said: All the flights carried out with the rebuilt helicopters have been successful. He emphasized that this move constitutes a big stride toward our country's growth and self-sufficiency in the military industries.

Tehran Threatens Retaliation for Tanker Attacks

GF180910 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The Iraqi regime has continued for a long time to strike at and strafe oil tankers arriving at Khark Island — which is the main port for the export of Iranian oil in the Persian Gulf — and tankers leaving this island, including tankers that belong to neutral countries which having nothing to do with the war imposed on Iran. The Islamic Republic of Iran has put up with this irresponsible Saddamist behavior for a long time and has tried unsuccessfully every means to prevent the Saddamists from continuing to strafe tankers and commercial vessels in the Gulf waters. The situation has become intolerable and Iran has grown impatient. Iran announces — while feeling extremely powerful as stated by one of its senior leaders — that it will retaliate against the Saddamist strafing of oil tankers by shelling Basra and selected targets in other Iraqi cities including the city of Baghdad itself. Iran also announces that it will use its surface-to-surface long-range missiles to strike targets in the depths of Iraq. Iran will no longer be obviated by anything or by any political or international consideration so long as the Saddamist side disregards all the international laws, norms, and agreements to which this side committed itself.

We believe that the Saddamist clique that dominates the oppressed Iraqi people has finally brought itself to a critical situation — a situation which we warned against. The policy of retaliation, which the Islamic Republic of Iran resorted to under difficult conditions, is a comprehensive policy that cannot be restricted only to retaliation for strikes against cities and civilian installations. It also includes immediate and decisive retaliation for the hitting of commercial shipping and oil tankers in the Persian Gulf. The Islamic Republic of Iran, after being patient for a long time, was compelled to use its powerful and destructive missile arsenal in its just fight against the Saddamists, at a time when, in its heart, it had hoped to use this arsenal in the future against the Zionist enemy that is usurping Holy Jerusalem and in fighting the enemies of Islam and the Muslims. But what could we do when the Saddamists got so intolerable in their arrogance and haughtiness?

KEYHAN AL-'ARABI on Shelling of Iraqi Cities

GF161624 Tehran KEYHAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic 10 Mar 85 London Edition p 1

[Editorial: "We Will Cut Out the Cancer From Iraq's Body"]

[Text] The change that has occurred in the social structure of the Iraqi people since Saddam Husayn assumed power in July 1979 worries and saddens free people. The objective of such a pro-

grammed change is to destroy the Islamic identity of the Iraqi citizen through emigration, mass genocide, and arbitrary arrests while at the same time great numbers of foreigners are brought to Iraq for permanent residence. The number of these foreigners now totals one-quarter of the original population of Iraq and constitutes 56 percent of the country's workforce. Saddam has launched his unjust war with these facts in mind with the aim of speeding up the implementation of his scheme. He believes that the victory he will achieve in the war will enable him to drive out all the tribes of the central Euphrates and the inhabitants of southern Iraq outside Iraq's borders on the pretext that they were not loyal to the political leadership during the war.

Saddam's scheme has been obstructed by the heavy blows which the forces of Islam are dealing to Saddam and his deviant gang on the battlefront. Therefore, Saddam has had to defer the implementation of his scheme. He has persisted in his customary policy of persecuting the people of Iraq. At the same time he has waged a war of annihilation against our cities and border towns using long-range surface-to-surface missiles and bomber aircraft.

In view of the gravity of the situation, our Islamic leadership decided to put an end to all of Saddam's criminal actions and to tighten the military siege of Saddam. Our artillery began its continual bombardment of Basra. This is the first stage: the final stage will be the bombardment of Baghdad where more than 1 million foreigners live. The prevailing belief among military circles is that these blows will in practice lead to the departure of all the foreigners, who have come to Iraq to make money, from Iraqi cities. It is the foreigners who are keeping the remaining factories in Iraq running. Our operations will hasten the total paralysis of the Iraqi economy and will also contribute toward lowering the morale of Iraqi officers and soldiers who have lost all hope in achieving any victory or even in ending the war.

Our latest measure is necessary in order to extricate the cancer in Iraq's body. The continued presence of such a cancer — in the form of Saddam and his clique — will ultimately lead to Iraq's economic, military, and social death. We believe our recent operations are necessary to cut out these rotten parts from Iraq's body and thus save Iraq's population from inevitable death at the hands of Saddam and the mafia gang dominating the country.

Baha'i Member Executed on Espionage Charges

GF181156 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 5 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] A man in Yazd who was engaged in espionage activities for the Zionist regime has been executed.

According to a report by our correspondent, following the continuous and active efforts of the Islamic revolutionary court in Yazd, a man named Ruhollah Bahram Shani, son of Geshtasb, was charged with committing espionage for the Zionist regime, getting direct orders from Israel, and smuggling hard currency out of the country to Israel through the national Baha'i network.

He was also charged with having membership in organizations of the misguided Baha'i sect, creating a war of nerves and propaganda. He was sentenced to death by the Islamic Revolutionary Court in Yazd. The sentence was carried out with the court's approval on 25 February in the Islamic Revolutionary Court's prison.

U.S. Reportedly Giving Military Data to Iraq

LD181006 Tehran IRNA in English 0838 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran March 18, IRNA — The United States is helping the Iraqi Army in detecting Iranian military movements, said the London-based *SUNDAY TIMES* in a recent edition.

The paper quoted European military sources as saying that the information is obtained by American satellites and radar AWACS planes stationed over Saudi Arabia since the beginning of the imposed war.

Data on Iranian planes are relayed within minutes of take off while the movement of Iranian armored and artillery columns are extended to Iraq every twelve hours, the paper said.

Sources in Tehran said Iraq's repeated defeats in battlefront indicates its inability to use the information or the misleading nature of the data.

Nejat-e Iran: Velayati Candidate for Premier

GF181726 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Velayati has become the candidate for the premiership. According to a report by one of our correspondents in Tehran, even though Khomeyni is still alive, differences and factionalism among the various factions of the mullahs are increasing. Mir Hoseyn Musavi, who is the target of the anger of the majority of the professional mourners of the Majlis, in a gathering of Bazaaris in his office, openly said: I know that there are plots being planned to bring about the collapse of this serving government.

On the other hand, a group of mullahs who are led and supported by Ahmad Khomeyni and Rafsanjani have been discussing Dr Velayati in various gatherings as the future candidate for premiership. Three weeks ago, Khamene'i, who strongly supports Mir Hoseyn Musavi, in a Khomeyni audience for a group of Supreme Defense Council members and Majlis deputies from the defense commission, complained about the lack of Majlis and Council of Guardian's support for implementing national projects. The imam of ummah in turn invited them to cooperate with each other. However, due to his severe state of health he did not discuss this at any length. During one of the sessions of the budget commission recently, Rafsanjani explained the dissatisfaction of the Armed Forces' officers and personnel as a result of the lack of cabinet attention to the welfare of the military and refusal to pay them overtime or war-time bonuses, blaming the government for this.

NVOI Assails Pact Among Turkey, Iran, Pakistan

TA160538 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Unattributed commentary: "ECO — The First Step Toward the Establishment of An Iranian-Turkish-Pakistani Military Pact"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The usurpers of power are trampling on the gains of the revolution one after the other. According to a precise and calculated plan they are paving the way for the total return of imperialism, headed by world-devouring America, and British colonialism.

While simultaneously consolidating the foundations of the capitalist system, the Islamic rulers have also not ignored the revival of aggressive organizations that defend their own plundering interests and those of their imperialist masters. One of the aggressive imperialist organizations revived by the Islamic rulers is the Regional Cooperation for Development [RCD]. This organization was concocted 20 years ago at the initiative of U.S. imperialism and British colonialism, and with the participation of Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey, and was one of the branches of the CENTO military pact, the aggressive imperialist pact which collapsed along with scores of other imperialist treaties after the glorious 11 February revolution.

As we are witnessing today, however, as a result of treachery by the Islamic rulers, the RCD has been revived. On 27 January 1985 the deputy foreign ministers of Turkey and Pakistan, as well as a delegation from the Islamic Republic headed by the Iranian Foreign Ministry's under secretary for international and economic affairs, met in Tehran. The outcome of this 2-day meeting was the revival of RCD under the name of the Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO]. The *STATESMAN* wrote that in the view of observers, this pact is an offshoot of a military alliance among the three countries. The Iranian people will not leave this treachery by the Islamic rulers unanswered, and will settle accounts with these traitors to the revolution in the not too distant future.

Radio Nejat-e Iran on Restrictions on Draftdodgers

GF161000 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Young men who do not go to the fronts will face difficulties such as being deprived of the right to marry, driving tests, obtaining food ration books, and participation in university entrance examinations.

NVOI Calls New Offensive Against Iraq 'Fresh Crime'

TA160551 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Unattributed commentary: "The Way To End the War and Killings Is To End the Rule of the Existing Regime"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: Imperialism and international Zionism, headed by America, have drafted a Satanic plan to destroy our homeland's young generation, and are implementing it with utmost wickedness by means of their agents who wear turbans and sandals. The prolongation of the war sought by the United States, Britain and Israel has priority in this plan. Any person with common sense and the least conscience and honor understands that the prolongation of this devastating and destructive war has achieved and will achieve nothing for the people of our homeland and the Iraqi people except poverty and misery, innumerable casualties, and unlimited destruction.

Now, 5 months after their so-called great and destiny-making offensive, the bloodsuckers and criminals ruling over our calamity-stricken homeland have again perpetrated another dastardly crime that is deeper and more enormous than the previous one. They have launched a criminal offensive east of the Tigris which they are calling a turning point in the war. The depth and extent of this fresh crime is not due to its military importance, but rather to the amount of human losses and destruction suffered by the people of Iran and Iraq.

Whatever is taking place these days in our calamity-stricken homeland, and all the killing and massacres, including the criminal prolongation of the war, are the result of the Islamic leadership's innate character and the medieval caliphate of the Velayat-e Faqih. Khomeyni, this bloodsucking caliph, says: War, war until victory over Saddam; war, war until sedition is abolished from the world. Elsewhere he says: Beat up, imprison, and kill those who are not reformists, and claims that these killings and murders are a blessing, even for those killed by us.

Other leaders of the regime call Khomeyni the deputy of the hidden imam, and equate obedience to his order with obedience to God and the prophet. It is on the basis of his decree that the gunslingers of the Velayat-e Faqih's dictatorial fascist-theocratic regime are engaged throughout the entire country in an unbridled massacre of the best children of Iran. On the war fronts they have made another Tigris and Euphrates flow with the blood of the people of Iran and Iraq. They are calling on our men and women, teenagers and children, to become martyrs and get killed in vast numbers. They perpetrate all these crimes in the name of God, Koran, and Islam. However, today the Iranian people, including true believers of Islam, no longer attach any value to these totally deceitful and hypocritical statements.

For a long time now people throughout the country have been saying: If Khomeyni really has faith in God, the Koran, and Islam, and believes in what he says about martyrdom and martyrs, why does he not send Ahmad Agha [Khomeyni's son] and his own grandchildren to the front so that they can enjoy the great blessing of martyrdom? [Words indistinct] the people are convinced that as long as this dictatorial, medieval fascist-theocratic regime exists, and these man-devouring bloodsucking middlemen are ruling over our homeland and people, murder, massacres, war and bloodshed will continue and the river of blood will flow. Ending all these crimes is linked directly to the expulsion of the bloodsucking caliph and the total destruction of the hated present regime.

Nejat-e Iran: Mullah Taheri Controlling Esfahan

GF181757 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] With the death of Mullah Khademi — Esfahan's ayatollah who, during the past 6 years, had a private and continious battle with the other ayatollah of this city, Seyyed Jalal Taheri — Taheri has now become the sole actor on the scene in Esfahan Province. During recent years the private clashes between these two ayatollahs — both of them used to earn their living in Esfahan by attending paid prayer meetings and telling fortunes — repeatedly changed Esfahan into the scene of very bloody events. Each side, in order to show their power and for the sake of reaching their greedy goals, resorted to amazing and barbaric actions. For example, Engineer Bahrainian who was a supporter of Khademi was killed in the light of day by agents of Taheri in Esfahan some 2 years ago. The file of the murder was kept in limbo due to pressure.

Our correspondent adds: The level of embezzlement of the supporters of the two mullahs through threats against people and the bazaaris, and by hoarding, corruption, and handling rationed goods, exceeds 100 million tumans. The people of Esfahan Province are the true witnesses of this statement. It is also said that Omid Najafabadi, a relation of Montazeri, who was the head of Esfahan court for some years and then was appointed a Majlis deputy, has so far used the confused conditions caused by the battle between these two powerful mullahs of Khomeyni to take several million dollars out of the country.

Afghan Mulsims Attack Soviet, DRA Forces

LD171608 Tehran IRNA in English 1458 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Zahedan, Sistan-Baluchestan Pr., March 17, IRNA – Four Afghan Army vehicles and three tanks were completely destroyed and a number of their crews were killed in an attack by Afghan Muslim revolutionaries against an Afghan-Soviet joint army column in Nimruz Province last week.

According to Afghan mujahideen sources here, Soviet fighter planes bombarded 2 villages in the province in retaliation, as a result of which some 18 villagers were martyred, a number of others injured and some residential units were destroyed.